

*Retirees
pg. 35 - Jerry - Retired
Stokes
36 - Ruth Stone
+ Ben Zannette*

PLAIN TALKS

FEBRUARY - MARCH, 1976

COMMENTARY

A New News, Old News Story

Plain Talks is finally back on the presses. No, we haven't taken you off the mailing list. The magazine was not published during our work stoppage in the last half of 1975. As a result, there is a backlog of a lot of old news — Coffee Cup, service awards, deaths and retirements, in particular. Stories about the Company golf tournament and the tornadoes that ripped through the system last spring are also being published. We hope you overlook the time lag — we want to be as complete as possible. And I realize many have waited for a long time for some Coffee Cup items to appear.

Five new, hopefully regular, features begin in this issue.

The cover story on the Ralston Purina mushroom plant in Madisonville begins a series on interesting uses of electricity. Who would have ever guessed that it takes \$15,000 worth of electricity each month to grow mushrooms? And how do they grow mushrooms anyway? Find out on Page 2. If you know of an unusual use of electricity, contact the editor.

Many Gulf Staters enjoy hunting, fishing and boating. But not, alas, the *Plain Talks* editor. So Butch

Suitt of the real estate department has been tapped to contribute a regular outdoors feature column. Butch also writes a weekly roundup of Beaumont-area bass clubs for the Beaumont *Enterprise*. His first *Plain Talks* article begins on page 14. It attempts to inspire fishermen to rummage through their tackle, cleaning and making repairs, before the season starts.

"50 Years Ago reaches back into old issues of *Plain Talks* to find the news and humor of the times. It appears on page 15.

"Production Notes" (page 17) is a capsule description of projects, problems and successes in the power plants. This is planned to run alternately with a similar roundup of the T&D activities in the divisions.

Finally, what would an issue of any 1976 magazine be like without a Bicentennial feature? Our service area is varied enough to provide a wealth of interesting activities tying into the pervasive 200th birthday of the nation. Beaumont started early — just 10 days after the New Year — with their opening of Gladys City on the 75th anniversary of the Spindletop gusher. Read about it on pages 20 and 21. What is your town doing?

—M.R.

PLAIN TALKS

Volume 54 - Number 1
February - March, 1976

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ABOUT THE COVER

There's something mysterious about mushrooms. Maybe its their alleged aphrodisiac qualities. Maybe its the fear of their poisonous relatives — toadstools. Or that mushrooms are properly a fungus — a word not ascribed to a delicious. How about the pastoral image of mushrooms growing on the floor of a lush forest?

Whatever the enchantment or aversion, one hardly thinks of mushroom growing as big business. But it is. In September, the agribusiness giant, Ralston Purina, opened a huge "farm" in Madisonville. Our cover shows the packing room, where freshly picked mushrooms are weighed, packed and shipped to supermarkets. Our story begins on Page 2.

The company employs more than 200 persons. Its capacity is 8 million pounds of mushrooms per year. That takes a lot of — hold your nose — horse manure. Really. Four hundred tons a week. It also takes a lot of electricity. Their Gulf States bill runs near \$15,000 each month.

Love those mushrooms.





Mushrooms from Madisonville

A huge "farm" in Madisonville produces a multitude of mushrooms using assembly line methods. And a lot of electricity.

Every disgruntled office worker has heard about the mushroom treatment: They keep you in the dark and throw all kinds of bad stuff at you.

In real life, however, growing mushrooms is a bit more complicated. Eleven weeks of carefully controlled operations at specific temperatures and humidities are required to produce the tasty morsels of edible fungi.

This fascinating activity can be witnessed at the new Ralston Purina mushroom "farm" in Madisonville. The facility — really more like a factory than a farm — serves Texas primarily with a capacity of eight million pounds of "Country Stand" mushrooms per year.

That's more than 160 million individual mushrooms each year.

The process is a marvel in efficient recycling.

Ralston Purina trucks in 400 tons of horse manure each week from the racetrack stables in Bossier City and New Orleans. The manure, mixed with the stables' straw, is composted for one week to break it down into nutrients.

The compost mixture is then spread in a wooden tray that will eventually host the mushrooms. Each tray is six feet by four feet and eight inches high. Vegetable oils are mixed into the compost to add energy. The trays are moved by forklifts from room to room, depending on the stage of growth.

The filled tray is then pasteurized at 140° F. for two hours in a steam-heated room. Thus, "pathogens" — harmful organisms such as nematodes and insects that could kill the mushrooms — are destroyed.

For the next six days, the tray is cooled in steps at certain temperatures to grow bacteria vital to the growth of mushrooms. During each step, a specific bacteria is developed. As the temperature is dropped to the next step, that bacteria dies and a new species grows. At the end of the process, all the bacteria is dead, forming a chalky, white dust called "thermophile," which permeates the thick compost. The mushrooms will feed on these dead bacteria.

The bacteria properly grown and killed, it's time to cultivate some mushrooms.

Since mushroom seeds — called spores — are incredibly small, they cannot be easily sown like corn or beans. So using a microscope, a spore is placed on a kernel of wheat and allowed to grow. This spore-carrying kernel is called "spawn." Making spawn is an extremely delicate process. Since ordinary air carries spores of many fungi species, air serving the spawn-room must be filtered many times. People entering the room must be cleansed of any possible contaminant. The cleanliness is like that in a hospital research lab.

The spawn is dropped onto the compost surface by a large machine specially designed in Switzerland

Popping through the top layer of peat moss from its fuzzy roots below the surface, these three mushroom await picking.

Ralston Purina uses 400 tons of horse manure each week. In one of the less desirable jobs, this worker returns spillage from the packing machine to the compost pile. Each long, horizontal stack of manure composts one week to concentrate the nutrients.

for that purpose. The trays are then moved to a room controlled at 78°F. and 90-100 per cent humidity. During this time, the precursor of the mushroom — a diffuse, white fuzz called "mycelium" — grows into the compost, feeding on the thermophile.

After two weeks, the trays are brought back to the spawn machine and another layer is added. A 1 3/4-inch layer of pasteurized peat moss is also added.

'It's not like it used to be'

Most companies praise the benefits of the modern way of life. But progress has taken its toll in one aspect of the mushroom growing industry — the declining nutritive quality of horse manure.

Each week the plant recycles 400 tons of manure from two Louisiana racetracks to form the compost in which mushrooms are grown.

"It's not like it used to be," Aldo Pia, head grower at the Ralston Purina mushroom plant, said. "We have to add nutrients to keep the nitrogen content up to 1.5 per cent."

Apparently the pampered thoroughbreds and quarter horses do not produce the quality of manure that came from farmers' work horses.

Pia reasons that since the Environmental Protection Agency requires the tracks to clean the stalls each day to keep the smell down, more straw is mixed in with the manure.

"Farmers didn't have the time to clean their stalls every day — and they weren't forced to either," Pia said. "So there would be a higher percentage of manure delivered to the grower. It also got richer in nutrients as it composted in the stalls between cleanings."

Ralston Purina now boosts its racetrack leavings with nitrogen sources such as urea, chicken litter, soybean meal and good quality hay.



Into another room go the trays. This time the air is recirculated — no fresh air allowed — to build up the carbon dioxide concentration.

"Mushrooms are just like people," said Aldo Pia, head grower at the farm. "They take in oxygen and give off carbon dioxide."

Meanwhile, the mycelium is growing up through the peat moss. After another two weeks, the room is "shocked" with fresh air.

"Just like any other species, when you threaten the environment of a mushroom — it will reproduce," Pia said. "By introducing the fresh air, we stimulate the mushrooms to grow."

After a four-day shock, the trays are removed to 65°F. growing rooms where mature mushrooms pop out from the peat moss. Their roots are in the mycelium.

While growing, the trays are watered to maintain 85 per cent humidity. Less water and the shelf life of the mushroom will be shortened. Too much moisture and bacteria will grow on the mushroom.

Each tray will produce four "flushes" of ready-to-eat mushrooms — about one batch every week. The Ralston Purina pickers pull up the mushrooms, trim the stems with a knife and sort them by size. After one round of picking, the tray's surface is bare. In another week, it will again be dotted with hundreds of white mushrooms.

After the fourth flush, the expended tray is emptied and reused. The compost is sterilized and sold for garden conditioner.

Once picked, the mushrooms are refrigerated to stop "respiration" — the absorption of air. If you notice mushrooms that look like open umbrellas, they have respired.

"There's nothing wrong with a respired mushroom," Pia said. "They're perfectly edible and taste the same. But they just don't look as nice."

Mushroom growers are very much concerned with the aesthetics of their product. The Ralston Purina



Climbing high to reach to top tray, a picker removes mature mushrooms in the growing room. The trays stack to save space and facilitate transfer with the fork lifts. The picker places different sizes into the various baskets in front of him.

people found that consumers in this area prefer white mushrooms — so the Madisonville farm grows only white ones. In California, however, brown mushrooms of a different species are considered superior. To each his own. The growers do not argue with their customers.

Ralston Purina was intent on servicing primarily the Houston-Dallas area with its Madisonville farm. It was located in the Gulf States service area because we assured them a reliable source of power. Scores of electric fans and coolers operate continuously — maintaining critical temperatures and humidities. If an electrical outage lasted longer than three or four hours, the mushroom crops would be damaged and worthless. The growers would have to start all over.

An average monthly electric bill for the farm runs about \$15,000.

"It's a good steady load," said Charles Jones, district superintendent in Madisonville. "The plant operates 24 hours a day. There are very few peaks."

The plant can be expanded to increase production another 50 per cent. Ralston Purina expects people to buy more mushrooms as they become used to seeing fresh, white ones regularly at their supermarkets.

The average American eats 1.25 pounds of mushrooms each year, according to Jim Elliott, business manager at the farm. But in California, the figure is 1.5 pounds per year — and in Europe and Canada it's double that, Elliott said.

"We hope eating mushrooms will mushroom here," Elliott said, grinning at the atrocious pun intended.



Aldo Pia - His life devoted to mushrooms

There are about 450 mushroom growers in America. And 95% of them are from Kennett Square, Pa., where Italian immigrants first introduced mushroom growing to America.

"They started as rose growers," said Aldo Pia, head grower at the Ralston Purina farm in Madisonville. "Then about 1880 one grower noticed mushrooms growing under one of his flower growing benches. He collected spores and started growing the mushrooms."

In those days, mushrooms were grown in large, fixed beds in caves or in the cellars of the growers' homes. But that method can only produce three crops per year, since the growing conditions must be changed during the process.

With a large demand for mushrooms, companies such as Ralston Purina have pioneered the tray method of production. Separate rooms are kept at the temperatures and humidities needed for the different stages of growth. Trays containing the compost or mushrooms are simply moved from one room to another. Thus, 20 different crops are at various stages of growth at any given time.

The critical temperatures and humidities are controlled electronically.

Though the biology and technology involved with mushroom growing is very complicated, Pia said the business is still basically an art.

"Machines can't tell you everything," Pia protested. "You must come in and smell." Inside the pasteurization room, the faint odor of ammonia told Pia the process was not yet completed.

He should know, he's been growing mushrooms for 41 years, since he helped his father at the age of 11.

"And I still don't know everything about the business," he said. "You can have all the college degrees you want," he said. "But if you don't have the feel, the smell, and the love of the business — forget it."

It also helps to be from Kennett Square.

New Union Contract Signed

A 25-week strike — the longest in the Company's history — ended Dec. 29, 1975, when Local 2286 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers accepted a contract hammered out between the Company and union bargaining committees. The strike began July 5, 1975.

The 30-month contract will raise wages for bargaining unit employees by more than 30 per cent. Retirement and insurance benefits were also increased.

"But the biggest thing I think came out of this strike is an improved attitude by management toward the employees and labor relations," said Ed Barton, business manager of the local.

An indication of this is that joint meetings between Company and union representatives are being conducted in an effort to have a mutual understanding of the contract changes.

"We have to improve our employee relations," said Ted Meinscher, director of industrial relations. "If both sides understand what the contract means, then this will reduce the number of grievances caused by misunderstandings in the application of the agreement."

Hitting the high points of the settlement:

- Classified employees received a 14 per cent wage increase at the end of the strike. Wage rates will go up an additional 10 per cent June 27 and another seven per cent a year later. In addition, employees in the top wage step of 37 classifications will receive an additional six cents per hour with the final raise.

- New methods of computation will raise benefits to employees who retired after July 1, 1975, about 35-40 per cent over the previous plan. Early and disability retirement benefits are also increased.

- The Company increased its contribution toward medical insurance premiums to \$28 for family coverage. Gulf States will continue to pay about 54 per cent of the total cost of family coverage should premiums be raised. Such coverage now costs the Company and employees a total of \$51.72 for each family. Individual coverage is \$20.26 and is paid entirely by the Company. The one-year contract with Blue Cross is up for renewal in October.

- The Company pays for \$5,000 of each employee's group life insurance, increasing to \$10,000 in July.

- Up to two hours paid time off without make-up requirements will be allowed for doctor's and dentist's appointments.

- A new temporary work headquarters arrangement was agreed on. T&D and power plant personnel sometimes are assigned to work at locations away from their usual headquarters. More of a person's work time can be devoted to the project if the workers report directly to the job site, rather

than being transported back and forth from their usual headquarters. But showing up out in the boonies in the morning may be an inconvenience to those involved. So each employee assigned to a temporary work headquarters will receive an added \$2 per day plus the round trip mileage allowance from the usual headquarters at the going rate. Even if a group car pools to the site, each worker gets the full benefits. Temporary headquarters will be located within 30 miles of the usual headquarters. Company transportation will be provided, in lieu of the mileage allowance, should the employee request it.

- The mileage allowance was increased to 12 cents per mile. This will be increased again to 15 cents per mile after Dec. 29, 1976.

- Paid time off will be granted to attend funerals of an employee's immediate family. A maximum of two days is allowed within 225 air miles and three days beyond that distance.

- Scheduling procedures were adopted to minimize last-minute changes that might disrupt an employee's personal plans.

- Shift differential was raised to 10 cents per hour for the evening shift and 14 cents per hour for the night shift. Janitors may also qualify for shift differential.

- The former jobs of commercial sales representative and residential sales representative were merged into a new consumer service representative classification. Home service advisors are now called consumer service advisors with expanded responsibilities and an increase in pay.

- Five weeks' vacation will now be awarded to employees with 27 years' service.

- A new holiday — the employee's birthday — was established. It may be scheduled on or within 15 days after the birthday, with certain restrictions.

- Meal, per diem and tool allowances were increased.

- Hair and beard standards were liberalized.

- Residence requirements were loosened for certain classifications required to live within a certain distance of their usual headquarters.

- The probation period of new employees was shortened to nine months.

- Union representation is detailed for various meetings and investigations.

- Pipemen in the gas department and district substation operators received additional wage hikes prior to the general increase.

- Clerical Jobs and the Labor I classification progressions were reduced by one year.



Lake Charles Meter Reader Elected to Jury

Elcie Guillory, meter reader in Lake Charles, was elected to the Calcasieu Parish Police Jury, effective this coming June.

The Police Jury is equivalent to Commissioners Court in Texas counties.

Guillory placed first of eight candidates in the primary last November and garnered 71 per cent of the vote in the runoff election. He represents District 2 in north Lake Charles.

"I'm concerned about the problems in the area," Guillory said. "The streets are impassible at more than 10 miles per hour. Sewers were put down a year ago and the streets haven't been fixed yet."

Guillory's only involvement in politics prior to his election was a stint as PTA president.

Guillory thinks his non-political past may have aided his election.

"I think people looked for three things when they voted for me," Guillory said. "First, they're looking for someone to talk too; someone that is available and lives in the community.

"Second, they're looking for someone who is honest.

"And third, they're looking for someone who will help improve their community."

Though the elections were held last year, Guillory won't officially take office until June, 1976.

Financing Sets Record

In the largest financing effort in Gulf States history, the Company collected nearly \$116 million on the Jan. 28 sale of \$60 million of first mortgage bonds and 4 million new shares of common stock.

Both issues were sold by competitive bids in New York and approved by the Board of Directors in its meeting in the Beaumont Main Office.

The common stock was sold to the public at a price of \$14.50 per share — \$0.25 above the market price at the time. Subtracting commission and underwriting costs, the Company netted \$14.031 per share — or \$56,124,000 in all. Book value for Gulf States common stock was \$14.08 per share at the end of 1975.

"That was a really good price for us," said Bill Cropper, financial analyst. "Our underwriting cost was only 47 cents per share — well below recent issues and only a few cents above the cost of the regular transaction."

The bonds pay 8 7/8 per cent interest and mature in the year 2006. The winning group of investment bankers charged

the public 100.5 per cent of the face value of the bonds — so the yield to the holder will be 8.83 per cent. Subtracting commission costs, the Company received \$59,862,600 for the \$60 million worth of bonds.

As in the stock sale, the Company received a favorable commission rate — .729 per cent. Recent comparable bond issues have been charged more.

The money will be used to retire short-term debt the Company assumed in the course of business. The sale was considered very successful because a January rally in the stock market carried the price of Gulf States common stock from about \$12 per share to more than \$15 before settling at \$14.25. Also during that time, interest rates were falling. So the Company netted \$4 million more than the \$112 million estimated in December.

The new bonds obligate the Company to interest payments of \$5,325,000 per year. At current dividend rates, the new stock would result in an additional \$4,480,000 annual payout.

Rate Increase Sought

The Company is petitioning the Louisiana Public Service Commission and city councils in Texas for a rate increase averaging about 16 per cent.

The full increase will cost customers \$51 million but net the Company only half that amount after taxes are paid. The Company needs the money to maintain the Aa ("double A") bond rating in the face of steeply increasing interest and construction expenses.

The amount of interest paid by Gulf States has increased 70 per cent in just the past five years. The 1976 construction budget is double that of 1971 and is expected to rise still further in coming years.

The bond rating reflects how much faith the financial community has in the Company's ability to repay its debts. Gulf States' Aa rating is the second highest. A

drop in the rating would mean still higher interest rates would be demanded by investors purchasing future Gulf States bonds.

Notes coming due this decade pay less than three per cent interest. In the last two financing, Gulf States was charged 10.15 per cent and 8 7/8 per cent.

The proposed rate schedule — still not completed — will be based on a "cost-to-serve" basis. Small users will receive a smaller increase than large users. Also, summer increases will be larger to discourage electrical use during peak periods.

Public hearings in Louisiana are expected later in the year. Several Texas municipalities have joined in a study of our proposal to be conducted by Touche Ross and Co., experienced rate consultants.

Importance of Science Told at Symposium

The world of science was described in terms of beauty and its importance to society by Dr. Paul Olum, keynote speaker at the 15th Texas Nuclear Science Symposium for High Schools at the University of Texas (Austin), June 4-7, 1975.

"Everybody must understand scientific research — particularly politicians and voters," Olum said. Several discoveries have changed the destiny of man and his planet.

Nuclear energy was a crucial example, he said.

Olum worked on the Manhattan Project in World War II, constructing the first atomic bomb. He is currently dean of the College of Natural Sciences at UT (Austin), where he is working to develop nuclear fusion technology.

Gulf States and nine other investor-owned utilities sponsored a total of 500 students and teachers to the symposium. Thirty-nine were from the Gulf States service area.

More electric power will be needed in future years because more people will consume more energy as population and standard of living increase, said Dr. E.

Linn Draper, director of the Nuclear Reactor Laboratory at UT (Austin).

Only coal and uranium could be counted on to supply these energy needs through the 21st century, Draper said. Radioactive wastes from nuclear power plants could ultimately be buried safely in salt domes, granite formations, ice caps or in deep sea beds, he said. Until one of those concepts clearly emerges as the most feasible, Draper said the wastes could be stored on the face of the earth.

Dr. Norman Rasmussen, nuclear engineering professor at Massachusetts Institute of Technology and head of the government study assessing accident risks at nuclear plants, said the chances of a major accident are one in one billion per plant per year.

The nation's gross national product rises with the amount of electricity it consumes, Rasmussen said. So the real need for electricity can be expressed in terms of higher employment and more food for our families.

Other speakers at the conference included: Dr. Roger E. Linnemann, M.D., who spoke on "Environmental Radioactivity;" Dr. Frank B. Salisbury, Utah State U., "Space Biology, Patterns of Life;" Frank Moseley, Central Power & Light Co., "Environmental Effects of Power Generation;" Dr. Mark Kac, Rockefeller University, "Mathematics for the Naked Eye;" Dr. Harvey Cromroy, University of Florida, "Radiation in Agriculture;" and Dr. H. H. Woodson, UT (Austin), "Future Energy Sources."



HONOR GRAD — James B. Read, relayman first class in Beaumont, was graduated from Lamar University May 16, 1975, with highest honors. He received an associate of applied science degree in industrial electronics and electricity.

Joe Dobbs Named Varibus Controller

Joe D. Dobbs, supervisor of general accounting, has been named controller of Varibus, the wholly-owned subsidiary of Gulf States.

"Gulf States has always performed the staff functions for Varibus," said Tom Page, executive vice president. "This action is just the official designation of that responsibility to Dobbs."

River Bend Begun

Construction of roads and site preparation have begun at the site of the Company's future River Bend nuclear power station south of St. Francisville, La.

Under the provisions of the Limited Work Authorization granted by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the site may be cleared, roads built and the reactor site excavated.

Most of the site has been cleared of trees, two roads are nearly completed and digging at the reactor site is well under way.

The 1.3-mile road from U.S. 61 will be built according to state specifications. But the road leading from the reactor to the Mississippi River will be even stronger to support the heavy items — including the reactor vessel — which will be brought to River Bend by barge.

Actual construction of the first of two 940-megawatt units will begin after a Construction Permit is issued by the NRC. Such permission follows successful completion of safety hearings, which are scheduled to be held in Baton Rouge this spring.



INSTALLING OFFICER — Walter Jones (right), section head in the Baton Rouge T&D engineering department, acted as installing officer for the April, 1975, meeting of the United Commercial Travelers of America, Council No. 499. Jones is shown passing the gavel to the incoming senior counselor, Cliff Curley.



Storm Workers Fed Crawfish

Baton Rouge Division employees who worked long hours repairing damage done by the May storms were treated to a gigantic crawfish boil May 11.

The catered event drew about 350 men to the Knights of Columbus Hall on Airline Highway, where 2,000 pounds of the yummy crustaceans were devoured. Beverages were served by Jack Worthy, vice president-Baton Rouge; George Cannon, Baton Rouge division manager-electric, and Bill Barksdale, operating superintendent-electric.

In addition, the nearly 120 men who helped restore the 500kV line north of Denham Springs had a couple of feasts in the field, thanks to Calvin Comeaux, right-of-way man.

First, Comeaux prepared two 25-gallon pots of his famous chicken and sausage jambalaya with the help of Jack Sirman and Ken Borque. A few days later, the chef cooked 80 pounds of catfish filets for the workers. Vernon Young, Bert Achord and Ed Bourgeois helped Comeaux in the latter effort.



WET JOB — Port Allen line crews had to park out in the Mississippi River last spring when they changed out a transformer bank serving the Toro Oil refinery docks. The pole supporting the transformers was on the river side of the levee, and the river was rising fast — so the men had to work fast. (from Del Vavasseur)



Towers Heads B.R. Symphony

James P. Towers, assistant to the vice president in Baton Rouge, is leading the Baton Rouge Symphony into a new prosperity.

Elected president of the Baton Rouge Symphony Association for the 1975-76 season, Towers is supervising the orchestra's largest budget and concert program of its 28-year history.

The annual budget surpassed \$100,000 this season. Should the group maintain at least that level for three years, Towers said the symphony can qualify as a "metropolitan" orchestra for federal funding through the National Endowment for the Arts.

This season's subscription program was expanded from five to eight concerts. Four free youth concerts were held and expanded to include Hammond. Also, a "pops" concert was scheduled.



St. Francisville Folks Visit Illinois A-Plant

Ten residents of West Feliciana Parish, where the River Bend nuclear power station is being built, were guests of Gulf States and Commonwealth Edison on a tour of Dresden Nuclear Station in Illinois May 28.

In a day that began at 6 a.m., the group flew to Chicago and traveled to the station operated by Commonwealth about 40 miles southwest of the city. Included on the tour were Units 1 and 2, a film showing a refueling operation similar to one being carried out in Unit 3 at the time, a General Electric simulator training center and several question and answer sessions.

Homes were situated within a few hundred feet from the station, animals grazed in nearby yards and a corn field extended to the plant fence - evidence that little radiation emanates from such a power plant.

The group was told of exhaustive studies by the U.S. Department of Agriculture which showed no change in the health of the animals or crops as a result of the presence of the power plant.

Upon returning to Louisiana, David Goff, publisher of the St. Francisville *Democrat*, wrote in a long article on the trip. "Opponents of such a nuclear power plant will not be convinced by a non-scientist type such as myself, mainly because they don't want to listen to the facts.

"This country is a power-oriented one. Without electricity or an immediate rem-



edy for the lack of power, regardless of the source, the whole place is out of business. The pros and cons can fill libraries but the electric needs of this country are indisputable and no one has an alternative soon enough!"

Joining Goff on the trip were H. L. Stutzman, president of the West Feliciana Parish Police Jury; Zach Butterworth, a law clerk; Joe Rinaudo Jr., local businessman and mayor pro tem of St. Francisville; Ledell Mackie, police juror; Lola

Broadbent, a local resident whose property borders the River Bend site; Russell Daniel, St. Francisville alderman and businessman; Carter Percy, farmer; Nathaniel Hopper, physics and science teacher at St. Francisville High School; and Raymond Minor, Parish School Board member.

Representing Gulf States on the trip were Jack Worthy, vice president-Baton Rouge; Jim Meitzen, senior project engineer; Bill Klover, health physicist; and Jim Turner, director of public relations.

Organization Shifted for Efficiency

Organizational changes have altered the reporting responsibilities of Ronald D. Cunningham, Luther M. Risker and Lyle P. Gerac.

Cunningham, supervisor of order processing, will now report to the material services department rather than to accounting services. Cunningham's group of six people reviews invoices and purchase orders to be sure the Company got what it paid for and arranges for the invoices to be paid.

Risher, supervisor of stores and salvage, will also change from the account-

ing services department to material services. His group of six people is responsible for salvage and inventory control of T&D storerooms and sales floors across the system.

"These are really non-accounting functions," said Tom Page, executive vice president. "At one time they were placed in accounting services for separation of authority reasons.

"I'm trying to concentrate in the controller's office true accounting functions. There are great operating efficiencies to be gained by concentrating similar func-

tions.

"Of course, the controller always has the power of inquiry into any department, since he controls the money supply."

Gerac, executive assistant formerly reporting to the executive vice president, will now report to the controller — Jim Braswell. He is currently working on developing two future organizations which will (1) provide field accounting services and (2) design, develop and implement computer-oriented accounting and business systems.



Heaner's shot — straight for the pin.
In Beaumont and Baton Rouge



25 inches — closest to the hole on 16 for
Rufus Meir.



D. V. Garon drives from the 10th tee.

Heaner, Hunt Win Golf Tournaments

May 26 was the day of the Big H.

Bill Heaner, vice president - personnel, and Ronnie Hunt, lineman first class of Choctaw, won the Beaumont and Baton Rouge company golf tournaments, respectively.

The Beaumont meet was held at Tyrrell Park municipal course. The Baton Rouge tourney was played at the Sharon Meadows course in Ethel.

Heaner and Mike Chapman, Live Wire champion, tied for low gross honors with 78s, but Heaner won when the hole-by-hole scores were compared. Chapman's two-stroke higher handicap gave him the victory in the championship flight net competition.

Other flight winners were Charles Echerd, Olice Steward, Gary Kramer and

Mickie Bridges.

Kramer shot a net 65 to win the overall low net trophy donated by Lake Charles retiree Bill Thomson.

Rufus Mier was closest to the 15th hole — with a 2 feet, 1 inch mark. Ed Hodges came within 6 feet, 8 inches of the third hole to take the prize for closest to that hole.

Lady Luck smiled on one group on the fifth hole. Both Jack Shirey and Jim Derr skipped over the lake. Partner Perry Blanchette topped his tee shot, which skidded to a stop just inches short of the lake.

Luish Wynne certainly didn't have good luck on the ninth hole. He took to the wilderness trail through the trees and scored a nine. He still placed fifth in the championship flight.

Hunt shot three birdies on the back nine to highlight his round of 71 — five strokes better than the runner-up, Fred Eubanks.

Hunt said he only plays golf four or five times a year.

Flight winners were Jim Griscom, Rick Moore, D. V. Garon and George Cannon. Pauline Burdette won the ladies flight.

Aaron Savant won the longest drive, and Randy LeJeune hit the closest to the hole on one par-three hole.

Joe Burton tore the course up — literally — with a "sizzling 138" to take the duffer's award — three golf balls.

"But I lost about three packs," he said. "I knew it was going to be a fine day when I hooked my first drive into the water. That was the turning point."

Tournament Results

Beaumont

Championship Flight

Mike Chapman	78-11=67
Bill Heaner	78-9=69
Norman Lee	84-13=71
Summa Stelly	86-12=74
Luish Wynne	85-10=75

Second Flight

Charles Echerd	85-16=69
A. J. Prejean	86-16=70
Jack Kirkland	85-15=70
Tracy Webb	85-14=71
Jimmy Lusk	88-16=72

Third Flight

Olice Steward	89-19=70
Andy Poulson	88-17=71

Keith Bergeron	92-20=72
Steve Kimball	90-18=72
Jack Shirey	92-20=72

Fourth Flight

Gary Kramer	92-27=65
Paul Grimes	99-28=71
W. E. Thomson	96-24=72
Emery Pintsch	101-28=73
Mike Ross	96-23=73

Fifth Flight

Mickie Bridges	100-32=68
Louis Sandidge	99-30=69
Pat McMeel	108-36=72
Jimmie Daigle	102-29=73
Joe Victorian	112-39=73

Baton Rouge

Championship Flight

Ronnie Hunt	71
Fred Eubanks	76
Ronnie Seaton	76
Phil Levert	78

First Flight

Jim Griscom	82
Buddy Nelson	83
Joe Guercia	86
Curtis Blount	89

Second Flight

Ric Moore	77
Ken Bourque	90
Clavin Hebert	90
Randy LeJeune	94

Third Flight

D. V. Garon	91
John Yarbrough	93
Howard Chaney	96
Bill Klover	96

Fourth Flight

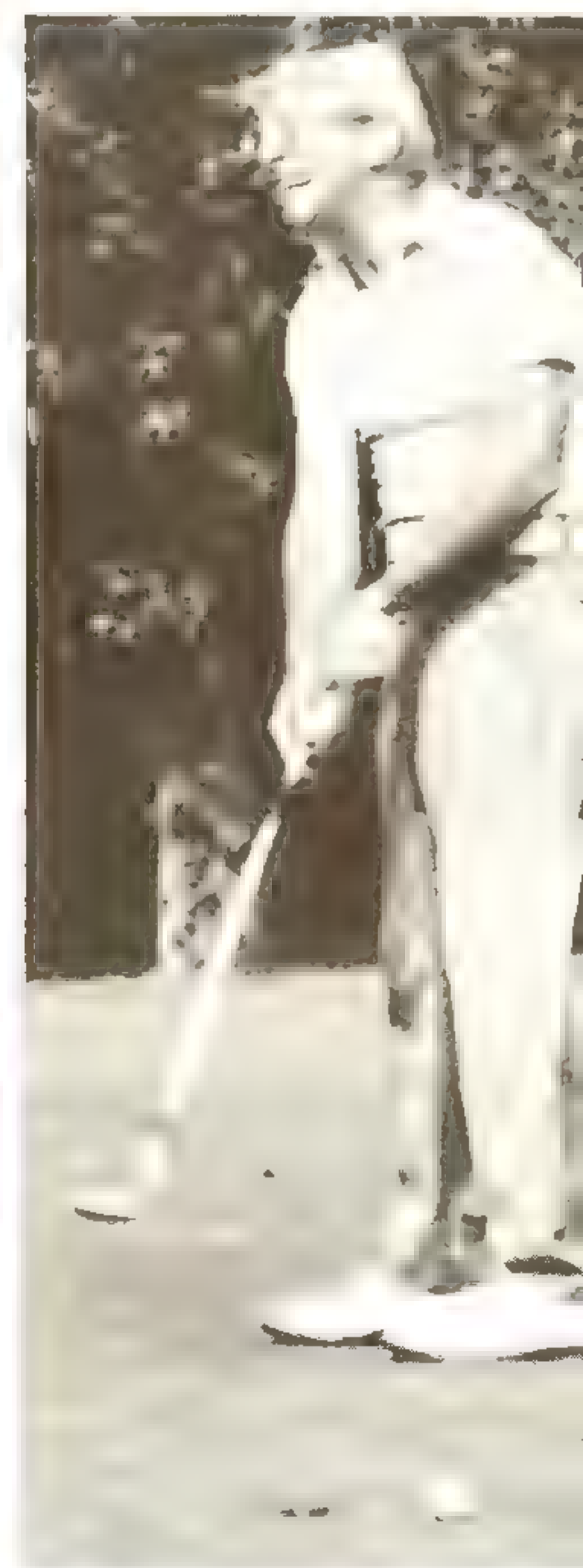
George Cannon	93
Robert Fletcher	102
Bill Reed	122
Clarence Parent	123

Ladies Flight

Pauline Burdette	107
Lois Holden	120
Jo Anne Parish	132
Debbie Lynn	152



WATCHING THAT LITTLE WHITE BALL — Gazing down the fairway, golfers hold their drivers in different positions. John Phares rests his on his shoulder. Jack Shirey holds his straight up. Norman Lee pointed his club in the intended — and more often than not, the resultant — direction. For dapper Summa Stelly, it's just a droop to the extended left foot.



PITIFUL PUTTING — Even though he won, Bill Heaner complained about his poor putting during the round. This series of photographs shows why. Preparing for a birdie putt on the final green, Heaner scoped out the territory and surveyed the roll of the land in two positions. Still, after he stroked the ball, it wasn't even close. AAAUURRRGGGGH!

Boom!

Sabine heater "blown up"
... intentionally.

Eight explosions rocked Sabine Station June 3 - 4. But Company officials were not disturbed.

In fact, nearly \$15,000 was paid to the "terrorists."

The ear-splitting blasts were part of a stopgap maintenance procedure to halt the corrosion and erosion of the ends of tubes in the first point boiler feed water heater on Unit 3 at the station.

Glenn Harmon of Southwestern Engineering, a firm which builds and services such heaters, and Irving Liebermann, manager of the explosive fabrication division of Shock Hydrodynamics, a company which applies explosives techniques, were installing stainless steel tube ends into the massive heater tube sheet, which resembles a giant, circular Chinese Checker board.

A total of 2,172 tube ends were inserted into each end of the U-shaped tubes. Explosive charges were inserted into the tubes and set off with a 3,000-volt charger. The force of the explosion inside each tube form-fitted the stainless steel to the uneven surface of the corroded tube end.

Several hundred tube ends were repaired at a time, with an orange flame and clouds of accumulated rust billowing from the heater following each detonation.

Liebermann said this technique was perfected three years ago and applied to heaters of many utilities around the country. No company has experienced a regression to corrosion or erosion after the tubes have been installed, he said.

The problem at Sabine was caused by the corrosion of condenser tubes by the brine from Sabine Lake, which is used as cooling water for the unit. The salty, mineral-laden water thus entered the boiler feed water system. Corrosion and erosion at the first point heater are due to the water's contamination, to the turbulence of the water as it makes a right-angle

bend at the entrance and exit of the heater and to the high temperature (469°F) of the heater — the last one before feed water enters the boiler proper.

The fee of \$14,750 covered all materials — which were custom-made for Sabine — and the time of Harmon and Liebermann, who are based in Los Angeles. It is considerably cheaper and faster than retubing the entire heater with either stainless steel or titanium alloy tubes — a job that would cost about \$250,000 according to Jim Moss, Sabine's superintendent.

"If it lasts one year we break even, and if it goes two years we're ahead," Moss said.

The problem illustrates how advancing technology can make existing, older devices look incredibly ill-designed. The heater tubes in question are made of ordinary, rust-prone "carbon" steel. "Titanium wasn't proven or economical when we build this plant — in 1960," Moss said.



The blasts belched fire, rust and casings.



Oddie Powell, mechanic's helper, inserts explosive charges.

High Voltage DC Transmission Study Funded by EPRI

The feasibility of high voltage direct current (DC) electric transmission will be studied by Hydro Quebec Institute of Research with a \$443,000 grant from the Electric Power Research Institute.

The two-year study is intended to establish whether voltage ranges of $\pm 600\text{kV}$ to $\pm 1,200\text{kV}$ are feasible, to identify potential problems and to draw comparisons with alternating current (AC) transmission now in use over comparable voltage ranges.

Direct current transmission would utilize only two conductors — positive and negative — rather than three-phases now transmitting AC, said Al Naylor, director of engineering planning for Gulf States. This results in smaller, lighter structures and narrower right-of-way needs. The lack of the 60-cycle oscillation also reduces line losses through induction, Naylor added.

Expensive conversion terminals must be constructed on each end of the direct current line, however, since there are no economical DC generators and most home appliances and motors run on AC. A line must be several hundred miles long for the advantages to offset the added equipment expense, Naylor said.

THRIFT PLAN

Purchases of Gulf States Utilities common stock made by the trustee during January, 1976, covering employee deductions and Company contributions through December, 1975, were as follows:

Common Stock

Shares	Date	Price per share	Total Cost	Commission
2,868	13 January	\$14	\$ 40,152.00	0* (match out)
11,455	29 January	14 1/2	166,097.50	0* (new issue)

Total: 14,323 shares bought at an average price of \$14.3988 per share.

Preferred Stock

35	13 January	\$49	\$ 1,715.00	0* (match out)
30	14 January	50	1,530.35	\$30.35
9	14 January	50 1/8	464.93	13.81

Total: 74 shares bought at an average price of \$50.1389 per share.

The trustee deposited \$61,191.37 with the savings department of First Security National Bank. On Dec. 31, 1975, \$13,000 was withdrawn from the Certificate of Deposit (CD) held by the trustee. A new CD earning 5.7 per cent per annum was purchased. The \$2.076 million note matures June 30, 1976.

*The trustee buys shares redeemed by participants (matches out) without any commission costs. New issues also do not carry commissions nor brokerage fees.

Bowling Tourney In Baton Rouge

The 16th annual Gulf States Bowling Tournament is scheduled for Baton Rouge on April 24, according to tournament chairman Dewey Raborn.

"We haven't finalized many of the details as yet," said Raborn, "but the tournament will definitely take place at the Plank Bowl near the Best Western Motel (formerly Holiday Inn North)." Best Western will allow two GSU bowlers to share a room for the price of a single.

Tentative plans include some type of banquet or crawfish boil for all participants and friends.

Working with Raborn to coordinate the tournament are Del Vavasseur and Wayne Huff in Baton Rouge, Harry Stelly in Lake Charles, Curtis LeBlanc in Port Arthur and Ricks Bryant in Beaumont.

"We are trying to make this the best and biggest tournament yet," said Raborn, "and we will be sending out more detailed information as it develops."

Inflation Creating High Poverty Class

Inflation is squeezing middle income Americans into a "high poverty" class, according to Dr. Carl H. Madden, chief economist of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States.

"No one has to tell the middle class that in the last two years the value of the dollar shrank nearly 20%. They don't need (Senator Hubert Humphrey) to tell them that inflation is pushing them into higher tax brackets while Congress also raises Social Security taxes.

"They don't even need economists to tell them that the Federal Government has been guilty, year in and year out, of chronic and deceptive overspending," the Chamber spokesman continued.

"Recent surveys show the rise of a new conservation ethic in Middle America, a sharpening of disappointed people's political sensibilities," Dr. Madden said, warning: "If under these circumstances short-run Federal Budget decisions only perpetuate or speed up inflation and the growth of government in the name of economic recovery, people's confidence in government is going to worsen and they are likely to do something about it."

Unemployment could easily reach 10% before turning around, he predicted, generating calls for vast federal spending programs with resulting inflationary Budget deficits.

"It is a mistake of egregious proportions to be panicked into launching new government programs based on ideas of the 1930's to create public jobs. The New Deal did not restore jobs, as a look at the results shows. But more to the point, this is not the 1930's. It is a time of inflation and unemployment. It is a time of a huge need for capital to restructure the U.S. economy. It is a time of paying for a growing and inefficient welfare state," Dr. Madden said.

Fishermen: Be Prepared

Time now for a tackle tuneup Before fishing fever strikes

*By Butch Suitt
(Senior Engineering Assistant)
Real Estate*

Hunting season has ended and the weather is still a bit cold for fishing. But spring is just around the corner and with it comes fishing fever at its worse.

The first trip of the spring will end in frustration for many as long neglected fishing tackle will take its toll. Broken rods, reels and seeing that record-breaking fish swim away will cause many an angler to lose his religion.

Much of this can be avoided if a few hours are devoted in preparing for the upcoming fishing season by putting your gear in shape.

The first and most common source of trouble will probably be mechanical in nature...dried grease, grit, etc. in the reels.

Clean your reels

First, clean your reels thoroughly. Dismantle them sufficiently to clean the dried grease and grit from the internal moving parts. LPS or WD-40 works well in removing the grease and grit from the gears and leaves a rust preventative coating on the parts.

After cleaning the reels, grease sparingly as excess grease tends to collect grit and can "gum up" the works.

When the reel has been cleaned and greased, remove the line and replace it with new line. The few dollars spent on new line will be cheap insurance against losing that first big fish of the season.

Next, check your rods for loose or broken guides, or frayed wrapping. If any are loose, rewrap with guide wrapping thread. If the wrapping thread is becoming unravelled or frayed, a few dabs of clear fingernail polish will do wonders.

Also check the guides for rough or rough edges which might damage your line. Emery cloth or steel wool will usually polish these easily. If they are beyond cleaning, either replace them or buy a new rod.

Next, check the condition of the reel seat and the rod grip. If the grip is loose, glue it with a good quality waterproof glue. If it should slip, it could cause you to lose the rod and reel over the side of your boat.



The tackle box is the next most common source of trouble. Not necessarily the box itself, but its contents.

On the box, though, check and be sure that the latch holds securely. Nothing can be more aggravating than the box coming open and spilling all its contents in the bottom of the boat, or worse still...in the lake!

Check lures

The condition of your lures is also important. Check the finish on each lure and touch up the worn and chipped places with quick dry enamel. If the lure is plastic, be sure the paint will not react with the plastic by testing a small amount on an old lure before trying it on your favorites.

Next, sharpen the hooks to a needle point using either a regular pocket whetstone or one of the stones available at your tackle dealer specifically designed for that purpose. If the hook is rusty or has been bent, it should be replaced.

On the "spinner baits," polish or replace dull blades. The flash of the blades or spinners, and the



vibration is what actually attracts most fish. Also, replace the skirts if they are not plyable or are torn or stained.

A good investment is the purchase of a small tackle box designed for spinner lures. These boxes allow the lure to hang straight and "drip dry" which can extend the life many times over.

Carefully check the condition of your leaders and "spec" rigs. If there is any doubt as to their strength, by all means replace them.

Other items that deserve scrutiny before using are fish stringers and dip nets. These items are often taken for granted and can cause problems.

Stringers usually last for many years with little or no maintenance. On the clip type stringers, though, be sure the clips are sharp enough to penetrate the tough skin of a fish, and that the clip will fasten securely.

The dip net should be checked closely to be sure that the net will still hold the largest fish you are likely to encounter. Also, check the handle and net for signs of weakening by placing a weight equal to the weight of the heaviest fish you might use it on and lift the weight briskly several times.

Don't forget your life preserver

Next on the list is your PFD (personal flotation device) or life preserver. This can literally mean the difference between life and death if a boating accident occurs. Carefully check to see that they haven't mildewed or rotted during the off-season. Also, be sure all fasteners and straps will still hold securely. If there is any doubt, buy a new one!

Last, be sure you have a current fishing license. A reminder from a game warden can be expensive.



EASTERN TEXAS ELECTRIC COMPANY

50 Years Ago

"Like magic, Neches Power Station Rises from Swamp.

"Out of a wilderness, rearing its head high above surrounding swamp lands, the Neches Power Station is taking shape.

"A skeleton of steel is climbing skyward. Soon brick walls will spring up where yesterday only marsh grass was growing."

An 880-foot well was completed at the Port Arthur Ice Plant. It was drilled through the bottom of a 110-foot well drilled a year earlier but proved inadequate.

Ken Sutton joined the commercial department Jan. 4 and assisted with his first issue of *Plain Talks*.

Mrs. H. L. Ganchan, stenographer in the commercial department, won first place in Texas in an essay contest conducted by the Women's Committee of the Southwest Geographic Division, N.E.L.A. Miss Mary Haynes, stenographer at Beaumont power station (Ed. Note: and sister-in-law to Naomi Haynes, current production department secretary), placed second.

Subject of the contest: Selling My Company.

A prize of \$10 was offered for an "insignia, coat-of-arms, trademark — call it what you will —" with accompanying slogan for the Company.

"Methuselah Dorian, driver of truck No. 9, is expecting momentarily to receive from Mr. Gill or somebody official blame for a few seconds delay on the railways the other day. He parked on the tracks at Irving and Sherman streets and went sound asleep while he waited for other members of his crew to do something or other, it is said. It is also reliably reported that the car operator had to get out and shake him severely, as the bell and lusty bellows failed to arouse him."

Port Arthur employees, eager to celebrate the betrothals of their bretheren, were thrice faked out by an "epidemic of secret marriages."

"In the first place there was the marriage of Miss Gladys Griffith, our pretty switchboard operator, and E. D. Gibson, our cashier. For some time it was rumored they were to marry. Finally they admitted it and set the day. The office got all ready to celebrate the event. But when the day came, did they? They did not! The pair brazenly announced they had been secretly married for more than a month!

"Most of us weathered that blow pretty well, but when Jack Richardson, our assistant cashier and genial utility man, who also was mentioned for matrimony, slipped us the information a few days later that he and his 'intended' also had been secretly married for a month! Well, imagine our feelings!

"But we still had hopes of getting in on a wedding. There was W. E. Brumfield, our bookkeeper. He was our hope, and we pinned our faith to him. And, then, when we were least expecting it, what did Brum do? He sneaked away, he did, and eloped!"

Kramer and Locke Land the Big Ones

Gary Kramer and Billy Locke outfished 16 other teams to win the first — and hopefully annual — Live Wires Club Bass Tournament on Sam Rayburn Lake June 7.

The pair of administrative accountants caught 10 fish which weighed a total of 9 lb., 11 oz. That is an average of a little more than one pound per hour for the 6 a.m. until 3 p.m. contest.

Placing second were Jackie Swindell and D. C. Smith, both from Beaumont T&D, with a 9 lb., 4 oz. stringer. The third place team was comprised of Robert Peters, an engineering department section head; and his son-in-law, A. J. Rabb Jr. of Beaumont. They landed 6 lb., 10 oz. of bass.

Swindell won the Big Bass Trophy for his 4 lb., 9 oz. catch. Odis Blessitt of system accounting won the Q-Beam light and Jerry Cessna, formerly in the IDS department, won the filet knife in door prize drawings.

The event was headquartered at Hanks Creek Marina and was coordinated by Mickey Wilson. Judges were John Conley, Chip Knowles and Peters.

The weather was nearly perfect: warm with light clouds and a little windy at times. But the fish didn't seem to be biting — which was reflected in the light stringers brought in.

Barbecued chicken was prepared at the club's campsite on the Friday night preceding the tournament. Several club members donated their catches to a fish fry Saturday evening.



Gary Kramer and Billy Locke received the first place trophy from Mickey Wilson (above). Weighing in the mighty bass (lower left) are R. J. Peters and John Conley. The judges nor the fishermen needed to be weightlifters: Joel Jeffcote (center) showed a typical — paltry — stringer. Larry Smith (lower right) prepared barbecued chicken for those that arrived Friday night.



Production Notes

Willow Glen

Willow Glen 5 was brought on line Dec. 12. The unit had reached 480mW — 83 per cent load — Feb. 8 when a fire broke out on the fifth level burner. The unit will be out of service until early March while damaged burner control and temperature sensing lines are spliced. While it is down, the unit's turbine bearings will be inspected and welds in the forced draft fan rotors will be repaired.

The turbine generator on Unit 3 is being reassembled, with completion expected in early April. Hopefully, the unit will be used for the summer peak and taken off line late in the year for completion of boiler conversion to burn No. 6 fuel oil and tie-in of the air pollution control electrostatic precipitators and tall stack.

The bearings of one circulating water pump serving Unit 1 are being repaired. The unit is slated to go on line early in March to determine if further repairs are needed.

Sabine Station

Unit 4 returned to operation Feb. 18 following a 13-day inspection and maintenance outage. Control valves and stop valves were looked at, auxiliary systems were tuned up and a boiler leak was repaired while the unit was off line.

Major maintenance is set for Unit 3 in March. Six panels of tubes on three boiler walls will be replaced. Also, half of the condenser tubes will be replaced with titanium. The corrosion-resistant metal is needed because untreated salt water is used to cool the unit.

Construction of an auxiliary boiler at Unit 4 should be underway. The small, package boiler is needed to produce steam for the startup of the supercritical parent unit. The new boiler is being installed on a six-month, lease-purchase trial.

Lewis Creek

All's quiet at the Creek — with the exception of the endemic preheater and fifth point heater problems. Outages are set for the end of the year to repair those problems.

Louisiana Station

The 50mW 2-A turbine in the 1,500-pound plant is in a turnaround.

The spindle is in Houston, being repaired. The turbine had developed seal problems and was overdo for maintenance anyway.

Conversion of some units to burn No. 2 fuel oil on an emergency basis should be finished in April.

Various boiler and air preheater problems abound — as usual — the most serious being a superheater leak in the No. 12 boiler. Repair is set when the system can spare the loss of generation.

Nelson Station

A cooling water tower serving Unit 4 is being dismantled. A similar tower collapsed in 1974 and was replaced with a new tower. Construction of the second tower should begin in May.

Units 1, 2 and 3 are running.

Neches Station

A 10-year internal inspection of Unit 6 is set for April and May.

Toledo Bend

The fishing is really good.



SIMULTANEOUS SERVICE AWARDS — The Western Division Service Awards Banquet in Conroe April 30 was a special occasion for Julia and Charles Jones. Both husband and wife received awards. Julia was given a 10-year charm for her service. She is now a departmental clerk in Huntsville. Her husband, the local superintendent in Madisonville, was recognized for his 20 years of service to Gulf States.



Benedetto Welcomed

With this issue, *Plain Talks* welcomes Bill Benedetto to the masthead as contributing editor in Baton Rouge.

He is the new consumer communication representative, filling the position vacated by Frank Jones. Benedetto joined Gulf States last spring.

Benedetto, 34, is a native of Baton Rouge with a wide range of media and public relations experience.

He began his career in broadcasting at the age of 14 and served as a part-time announcer for several local radio stations. After graduation from Baton Rouge High School, he worked seven years for WBRZ-TV (Channel 2) in all aspects of television production. Since 1967 he has worked as television producer for the Louisiana Hospital Television Network; part-owner and manager of Pelican Provision Co., a family operated wholesale food distributor; account executive for an advertising agency; and, prior to joining Gulf States, sales promotion man for WRBT-TV (Channel 33).

He is married to the former Carol Amarello of Baton Rouge. The couple has three daughters: Rhonda Marie, 12; Melissa, 10; and Cynthia, 8.

Benedetto is a member of the Public Relations Association of Louisiana, the Baton Rouge Advertising Club and the Baton Rouge Press Club.

He is also active in the Home & School Association of Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church, the Right to Life Federation, the Louisiana Farm Bureau, the St. Joseph's Academy Fund Drive and Lion's Club AAU Track and Field Competition.

Safety Pays Off!

The 60 winners of \$25 U.S. Savings Bonds have been determined in the April home safety contest.

More than 400 completed crossword puzzles and quizzes were submitted, according to Ray Thompson, safety representative, who coordinated the 10-lesson program. Only 24 entries were entirely correct, however, and each of those earned prizes. Varying degrees of accuracy were needed to qualify for each division's drawing, depending on the quality of that area's responses. Prizes were allocated by divisions prior to the contest's closing.

"I thought the people did extremely well on the exam, especially considering the great number of questions and the several confusing questions," Thompson said.

Thompson explained the most missed questions.

"Question 98 was missed by 170 persons," he said. "It stated that the number one killer of children is poisons, which is true. Some might have been confused with a statement in the lesson that said accidents killed the most children, but poisoning is an accident and it kills more children than any other type of accident."

"Question 28 was missed by 120 persons. That stated that panic during an emergency could be prevented by speed. That is false; panic can be prevented by knowledge."

"Question 21 was missed by 115 persons. The statement was that the most important rule for water safety is knowing how to render heart-lung resuscitation, which is false. The most important rule for water safety is knowing how to swim."

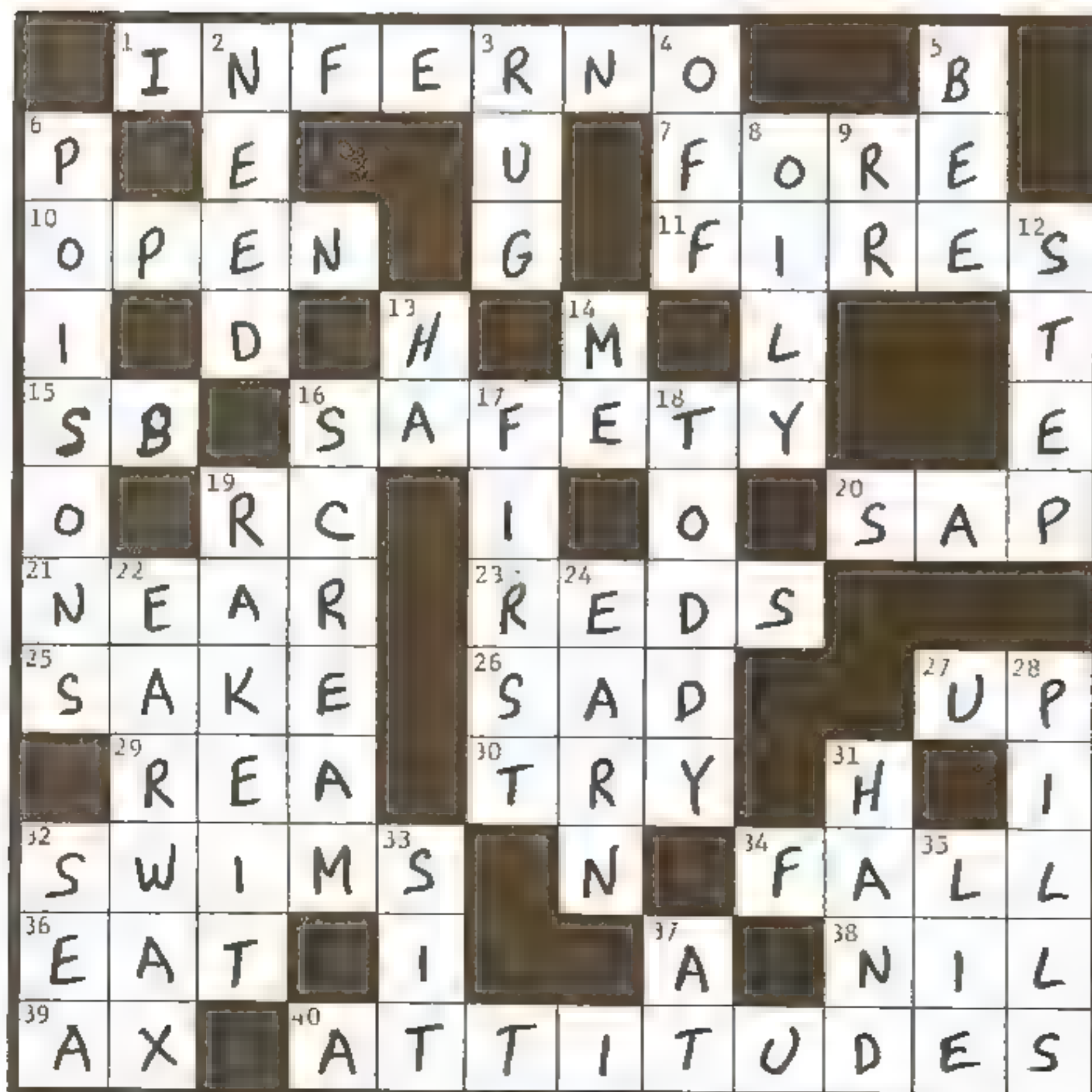
"Question 99 was missed by 70 persons. The statement was that vomiting

should be induced in the case of the accidental consumption of furniture polish. This is false. The oil base of the polish can enter the lungs and cause pneumonia. It states very clearly in the lesson that water or milk should be given to the victim, then two ounces of vegetable oil and, of course, notify a doctor."

Only 10 of the 100 true-false questions were answered correctly by all respondents, Thompson said. They were: 10: the proper transportation of a gun over a fence; 43: head position in mouth-to-mouth resuscitation; 50: parental example of safety methods; 63: transportation of a gun in a boat; 75: hallway and bathroom lighting; and 85: emotional maturity and the use of firearms.

A complete list of winners, the crossword puzzle solution and the correct answers to each true-false question can be found on this page.

Safety Contest Solutions



- | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| 1. F | 21. F | 41. T | 61. T | 81. T |
| 2. F | 22. F | 42. F | 62. T | 82. T |
| 3. F | 23. F | 43. T | 63. T | 83. T |
| 4. T | 24. F | 44. T | 64. F | 84. T |
| 5. T | 25. T | 45. T | 65. T | 85. T |
| 6. T | 26. T | 46. F | 66. T | 86. F |
| 7. T | 27. F | 47. T | 67. T | 87. T |
| 8. F | 28. F | 48. T | 68. T | 88. F |
| 9. F | 29. T | 49. T | 69. F | 89. T |
| 10. T | 30. T | 50. T | 70. F | 90. F |
| 11. T | 31. F | 51. T | 71. T | 91. T |
| 12. T | 32. F | 52. T | 72. F | 92. T |
| 13. T | 33. F | 53. T | 73. F | 93. F |
| 14. T | 34. F | 54. T | 74. T | 94. T |
| 15. T | 35. F | 55. F | 75. T | 95. T |
| 16. T | 36. F | 56. T | 76. T | 96. T |
| 17. T | 37. F | 57. F | 77. F | 97. F |
| 18. F | 38. T | 58. F | 78. T | 98. T |
| 19. T | 39. F | 59. T | 79. F | 99. F |
| 20. T | 40. F | 60. F | 80. T | 100. F |

Winners

Baton Rouge Division

John R. Allen - Lineman 1st Class - Denham Springs
 Linda G. Allen - Departmental Clerk - Government Street
 Wilery R. Bordelon - Repairman 1st Class - Louisiana Station
 Charles W. Cabaniss - Foreman - Choctaw
 George S. Cannon - Manager Electric Operations - Main Office
 Manson C. Corkern - Storeroom Supervisor - Choctaw
 Raymond J. Delaune - District Serviceman - Maringouin
 Richard A. Hughes - Meter Foreman - Government Street
 Morris Humphrey - Serviceman - Government Street
 George E. Kelley - Assistant Purchasing Agent - Main Office
 John W. Nelson - Relayman 1st Class - Government Street
 Malcolm P. Percle - Line Foreman - Choctaw
 Sidney J. Sparks Jr. - Meter Reader - Main Office
 Conrad E. Starns - Lineman 4th Class - Choctaw
 Martin C. Unbehagen - Water Plant Operator - Louisiana Station
 Judy B. Walker - Clerk - Main Office
 Perry J. Walker - Engineer - Willow Glen
 John S. Webster - Lineman's Helper - Choctaw

Beaumont Division

Melvin S. Cole - Director-Distribution Engineering - Main Office
 Edward R. Eichelberger - Process Analyst - Main Office
 Tommy L. Elliott - Serviceman 1st Class - Beaumont Service Center
 Dennis L. Forston - Truck Driver - Orange
 Robert J. Garrot - Administrative Accountant - Main Office
 Marshall L. Hawkes - Engineering Helper-Survey Crew - Beaumont Service Center
 Lewis D. Knowles Jr. - Engineer - Beaumont Service Center
 David V. Lassiter - Sr. Engineering Assistant - Main Office
 Jimmy C. Lusk - Assistant General Line Foreman - Orange
 David H. Mayo - Master Test Technician - Neches Station
 Joyce M. Murphy - Local Office Clerk - Dayton
 John T. Noddin - Storeroom Assistant - Beaumont Service Center
 Tommy G. Norris - Sr. Engineering Assistant - Main Office
 E. L. Priest - District Superintendent - Dayton
 Eugene W. Salonek - Distribution Substation Operator - Orange
 G. Michael Sealy - Labor Relations Representative - Main Office
 Robert J. Summers - Claims Representative - Main Office
 William P. Tindall - Engineering Assistant, Relay Coordination & Design - Main Office
 Terry W. Weaver - Lineman 2nd Class - Silsbee
 John H. Zemanek - Distribution Engineer - Main Office

Lake Charles Division

Sammie R. Bono - Service Supervisor - Service Center
 Allen P. Broussard - Truck Driver - Jennings
 John J. Deshotel - Serviceman - Jennings
 Thomas W. Falls - Communications Foreman - Service Center
 Carol Foreman - Appliance Repairman 1st Class - Service Center
 Robert L. Gary - Lineman 1st Class - Jennings
 Michael Petry - Engineer - Nelson Station
 Olan Richard - Lineman 1st Class - Jennings
 Loretta D. Savoy - Local Office Clerk - Church Point
 Joseph L. Stelly - Lineman 1st Class - Lafayette

Port Arthur Division

Louis P. Allen - Division Operator - Service Center
 Thomas D. Jester - Engineer - Service Center
 Lawrence C. Loyd - Laborer I - Service Center
 Steven C. Williamson - Engineer - Sabine Station
 Johnnie M. Wiltz - Engineering Helper - Service Center

Western Division

Raymond Brill Jr. - Sr. Engineering Assistant - Conroe
 Donna B. Burney - Departmental Clerk - Lewis Creek
 Calvin J. Jaetzold - Area Development Coordinator - Conroe
 Gilbert H. Lauter - Substation Utility Foreman - Conroe
 Joe M. O'Neill - Truck Driver - Cleveland
 Larry L. Waller - Lineman 2nd Class - Huntsville



Heeere's Tommy!

Welcome, if you will, Thomas Jefferson and the \$2 bill, which will return to the American currency April 13, 1976, — Jefferson's birthday.

Jefferson appears on the front of the bill and the Signing of the Declaration of Independence on the reverse. The bill was first authorized on June 25, 1776, but was discontinued in 1966 due to low circulation and demand. Though there are no indications of increased public demand, the Treasury Department hopes to save money by printing fewer \$1 bills after the "two-spots" are issued.

Comedians have noted that with the return of the \$2 bill, it will be nice to have something that is finally worth a dollar.

Electricity Fights Cancer

Electricity prevents cancer?

Well, indirectly, yes.

The April/May issue of *Environment* reported that the incidence of stomach cancer has declined rapidly over the last 50 years. Jerome H. Weisburger, a biochemist, examined clinical data and concluded the increasing use of refrigeration is the reason for the decline.

He said most food contains some nitrate — either naturally or in an added preservative. At room temperatures, the nitrates change into nitrites and then into nitrosamines — which can cause cancer. Refrigeration inhibits these changes — thus lowering the chances of developing stomach cancer.



"SAY, THAT'S A GREAT IDEA!" — Pat McMeel, consumer communication representative in Beaumont, seems to have a captive audience. He feels assured the majority of this committee will go along with his proposal. Actually, McMeel; Ken Haynie, commercial artist; and Mike Ross, *Plain Talks* editor, had returned from a photography school in Houston taught by Nikon professionals. There they learned how easy it was to make convincing multiple exposures. The key is to use a dark background. In fact, this picture was taken with a simple Polaroid camera by cocking the shutter and shooting three pictures before removing the film.

GLADYS CITY

BOOMTOWN USA



Using water rather than oil, the first Spindletop gusher was re-created on its 75th anniversary Jan. 10 at the Gladys City Museum.

The nation's Bicentennial and the 75th anniversary of the beginning of Beaumont's boomtown days were celebrated Jan. 10 with the dedication of Gladys City Museum.

The "museum" consists of 14 buildings, five wooden oil derricks and a wooden oil storage tank on the Lamar University campus. The scene re-creates the shanty town that grew up south of Beaumont when the first Spindletop gusher blew in in 1901.

Local firemen rigged a hose to spout water, rather than oil, through one of the museum's derricks at 10 a.m. — 75 years to the minute after the original well of Anthony Lucas erupted. Even a booming tape recording was aired, simulating the roar in the ground that preceded the real gusher.

Among the buildings are a driller's shack, post office, photography studio, broker's office, general store, cabinet shop, saloon, doctor's office, livery stable, surveyor's office and an operating blacksmith shop. The University is collecting items of the period to display in the buildings.

The project cost \$340,000 — largely contributed by public donations for souvenir "shares" in Gladys City. The museum is the major Bicentennial project for Beaumont and has been certified as a state historical site.

The first gusher poured out 800,000 barrels of oil in eight days before the well could be capped. The discovery reinforced the theory of Patillo Higgins and Anthony Lucas that oil could be found near salt domes. Experts at the time scoffed at the idea. And in those days, 50 barrels of oil per day was considered good production.

The gusher put Texas and the Gulf Coast in the forefront of the oil industry. Texaco, Gulf and Humble all began operations in the Spindletop boom.

Gladys City is located just north of Cardinal Drive in the south end of Beaumont, between Highland and Port Arthur Road. It is open 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. seven days a week. There is no admission charge.



People streamed over the wooden sidewalks and into the replica buildings of the new Gladys City, Beaumont's Bicentennial Project. Wooden oil derricks dominate the scene, even in the town square. Several offices are illuminated with a single low-wattage bulb hanging from the ceiling in the middle of the room. Wiring was of the "two-wire" method typical of the period. Three generations of the Schuldt family were present in the re-created blacksmith shop of the late George Christian

Schuldt, father of Conrad F. Schuldt Sr. on the far right. The Schuldts donated the tools to the museum and hope to run the shop. Ann Moor, wife of Les Moor, manager of materials services and vice president of Varibus, shows visitors the tools of the medical and pharmacy trade from the turn of the century. Mrs. Moor, a member of the Beaumont Heritage Society, acts as one of many "docents" — volunteer tour guides — at Gladys City.





Four storms struck the Gulf States service area in late April and early May.

The first storm blasted Calvert, Tex., the entire Beaumont Division and the Toomey-Starks area in Louisiana.

All customers served out of the Calvert substation were without power for from 13 to 24 hours after the 6 p.m. storm on April 29. Crews from Navasota and Conroe were sent in to repair the circuits damaged by a tornado which hit near the substation. The winds also destroyed the Gulf States garage (lower left) and one pickup truck. Downtown Calvert (lower right) also sustained heavy damages.

Approximately 12 feeders were downed when the storm moved through Beaumont about 9:30 p.m. Additional damage was reported in Orange, Kountze, Sour Lake, Vidor and Silsbee. Twelve Gulf States and five contract crews responded from Port Arthur, Jennings and Lake Charles to help restore service.

Just as the repairs were completed in the Beaumont Division, a second storm blew through Port Arthur and Beaumont on the afternoon of April 30. Help was again required from other divisions, since most Beaumont and extra linemen had worked long hours the night before and had scheduled mandatory rest periods. Ten crews from Lake Charles, Jennings,

Port Arthur, Cleveland and New Caney helped rebuild the downed lines.

This second storm continued easterly and wreaked havoc throughout Louisiana. Interruptions to transmission and distribution circuits were common in the Baton Rouge and Lake Charles divisions; but the severest damage was north of Welsh, where a 500kV tower collapsed, partially destroying another (top left). Replacement steel was available in Baton Rouge, and men worked 12 hours a day (top right) to put the line from Nelson Station to Richard Bulk back in service.

A lot of good it did them.

Another storm ripped through Louisiana May 8, knocking down a 500kV tower at Grosse Tete, just south of Interstate 10. The line from Willow Glen to Richard Bulk was thus opened just as the Welsh tower had been repaired. Interstate 10 was closed by state police for several hours because the high voltage lines drooped near the pavement.

That storm continued through to Baton Rouge, causing as much damage as some hurricanes in recent memory. An estimated 70,000 customers from Angola to Gonzales were without power at the height of the destruction. A total of 57 substations and 29 transmission lines were out of service, and 450 cases of in-



dividual wires down were reported in the division.

The most costly result of the storm was the collapse north of Denham Springs of six steel towers connecting Gulf States with the Tennessee Valley Authority through the 500kV system and carrying 230kV to Colonial Pipeline Co. near Felixville, La. Colonial lost more than \$2 million, and Gulf States lost about \$34,000 in revenues during the 17-day outage while replacement wooden structures were built.

As if that wasn't enough storm trouble, a fourth disturbance marched northward through the Crowley area May 9 and blew down three more steel towers along the Willow Glen-Richard Bulk 500kV line.

"I've never seen storms sweep the system like they have this spring," said Jack Kirkland, operations manager.





"They have come more often, the winds are higher and more devastating and they've been tearing up more stuff."

"The last two weeks have been a nightmare for us," Kirkland continued. "Our men are all played out. There's not a division in the Company that hasn't been putting in hour after hour repairing storm damage."

Parts of Baton Rouge looked more like jungles than residential areas as evidenced by the top photos. Fallen trees tore lines from distribution poles (arrows). Two poles near Cortana Mall were blown down, leaving debris on the U. S. 90 service road (middle right). North of Denham Springs, each of the six fallen towers (lower right) required an inventory of damaged parts. Below, engineer Bill Reed checks for broken and cracked insulators.



Calvert Clerk's Home Damaged

Suffering the worst residential damage in Calvert was the family home of Betty Dowell, local office clerk for Gulf States.

The Victorian-style home, built in 1896, was dealt nearly \$17,000 in estimated damages.

Mrs. Dowell said she had been sick that day. When the roaring twister approached, she, her husband and their 10-year-old daughter gathered in the front room.

"The huge front window blew in on us," Mrs. Dowell said. "So we moved to just behind the wall separating the dining room and the living room."

"Then the dining room window blew out. Glass was flying everywhere, but we received no cuts or scratches. That was unbelievable."

"Our house is sturdy — I don't think it shook any during the storm. But maybe I was shaking so much I didn't notice."

"We lost most of the roof and many windows, the wallpaper suffered water damages and the back wall near the kitchen was bowed out."

"We also lost five big trees — but none of them hit the house. They all just fell to the side."

"The people living near us didn't lose a thing."

"The only advice I can give to anybody is to check out your insurance. We had been in the process of taking an audit of stuff in the house and were thinking about getting more insurance."

"But we only had \$13,000 worth, and that policy didn't cover some of the damages we thought had been covered."



Design Weakness Found In 500kV Steel Towers

Now you tell us, 13 towers already collapse

What irony!

The very week Gulf States lost 13 steel 500kV transmission towers, engineering tests discovered a major design flaw. The tower could not withstand winds greater than 65 miles per hour at 45-degree angles to the transmission lines.

Gulf States and four other electric utilities which utilize the same tower design hired Adelphon, Inc., of Arlington, Tex., a tower design engineering consulting firm, to perform the tests. Talk of the study was initiated last year by Arkansas Power & Light, which had already lost more than 30 structures.

The tests had begun April 15 of this year — just two weeks before four storms ravaged the Gulf States service area and blew 13 steel towers down.

Liason for the Company is through civil engineer, Lee Goen.

Adelphon engineers actually pull a test tower, simulating wind conditions, and measure the damage, if any, to the structure.

Initial results showed the design would withstand the prescribed winds — 110 miles per hour — at right angles to the conductors. It was slightly less stable when the wind travels along the lines.

But to the astonishment of all concerned, the tower began to fail at stresses considerably lower than 110 mph winds when they came from a 45-degree angle to the lines.

According to Lewis Guthrie, director of engineering design, the design criteria specified that the tower withstand 110 mph winds only in the transverse — across the lines — direction. The reasoning was that that direction was presumed to be the most damaging.

Later tests have shown two braces added to the side of each tower will strengthen the structures to the diagonal winds. The steel would range from 27 feet to 37 feet long, depending on the type of tower, Goen said. Cost estimates have not been completed. Initially, 16 towers being checked for bolts will be



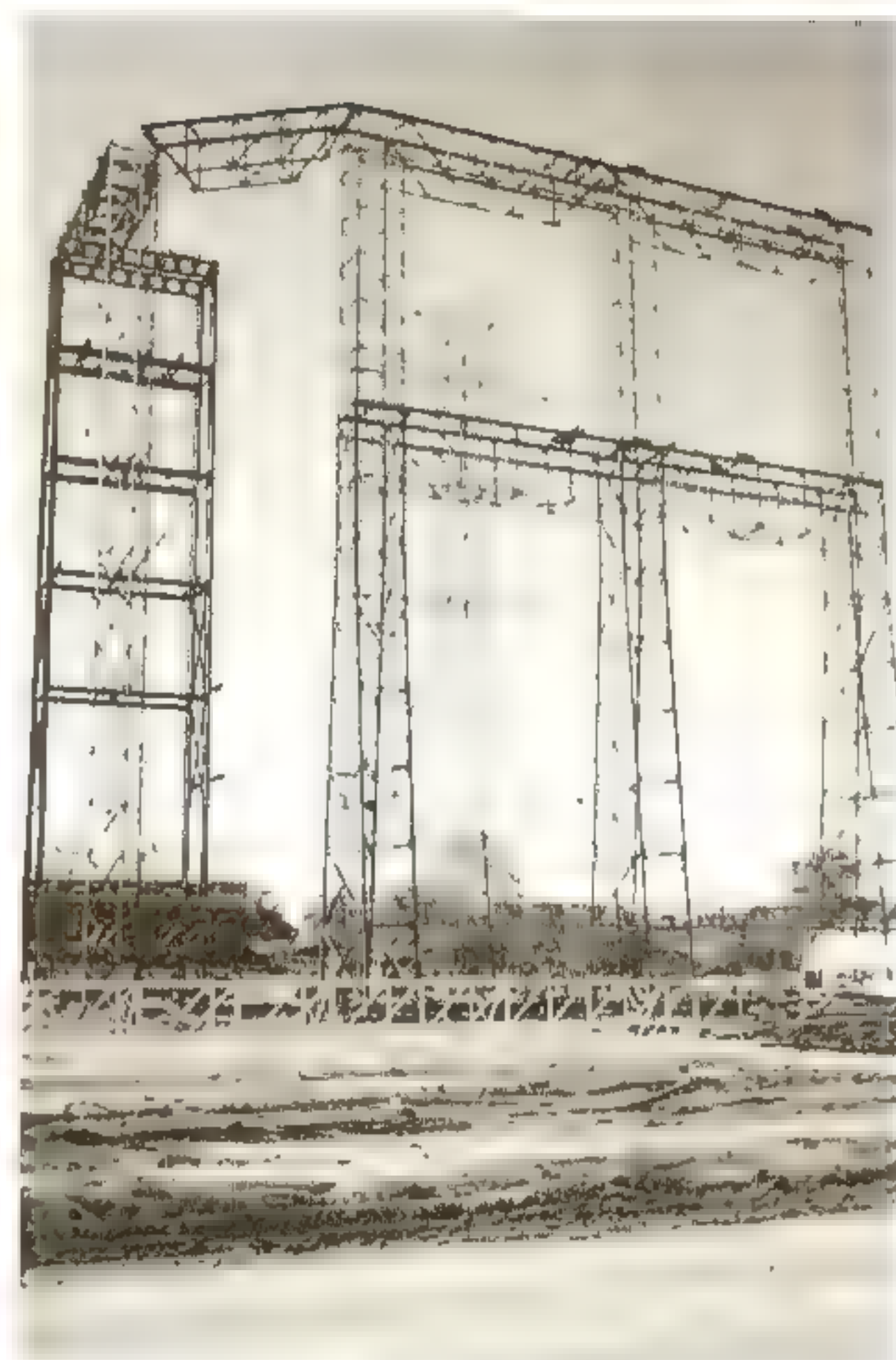
This tower at Grosse Tete, La., collapsed under winds significantly less than 110 miles per hour.

fitted with the bracing. Under consideration is a full-scale reinforcing of all towers having legs taller than 20 feet. Gulf States has 1,541 steel transmission towers within its service area.

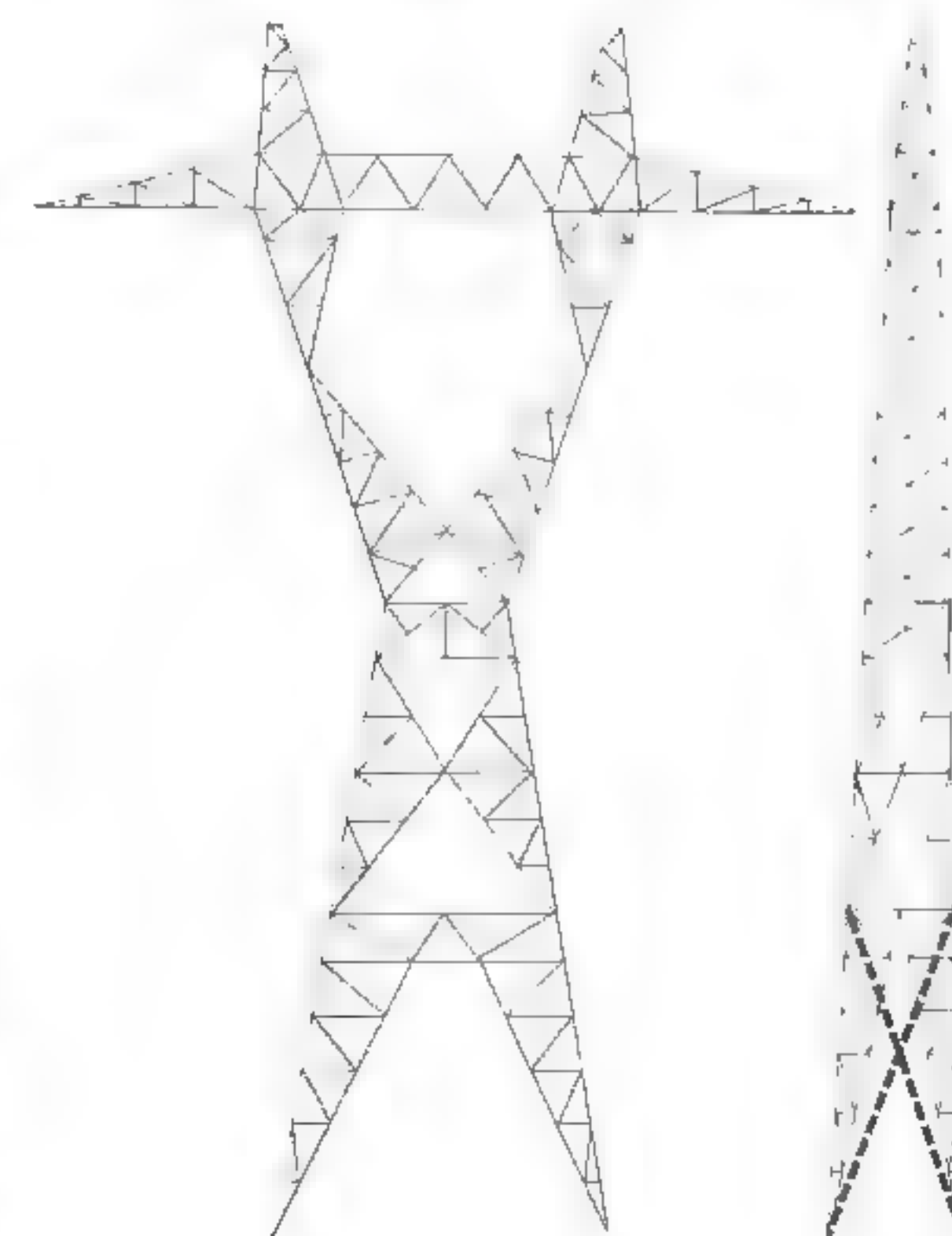
In the meantime, the fallen towers north of Denham Springs and north of Crowley have been replaced with permanent wooden structures. H-frame towers made with steel poles may be used on future 500kV lines and as replacements, should additional towers fail.

The "5A" tower design tested by Adelphon was devised by the American Bridge Division of U.S. Steel. The project's engineers were Commonwealth Associates, Inc., of Jackson, Mich.

The design has been used for the entire 500kV system shared by Gulf States, Arkansas Power & Light, Louisiana Power & Light, Mississippi Power & Light and Central Louisiana Electric Co.



After testing the 500kV tower in a setup like that pictured above, Adelphon engineers found simple cross bracing (dashed lines below) would strengthen the tower to quartering winds.



The Artistic Force of Storms



The awesome force of Nature's storms often mangles man's creations into grotesquely beautiful forms. In the upper photo, a detail of a fallen 500kV tower north of Welsh shows a coiled snake of a steel member and above it another shredded by the collapse. In Calvert, as shown in the lower picture, a once vertical brick wall was laid out horizontally in near perfect order by the tornado.

PEOPLE ON THE MOVE



Thomas A. Page



Charles D. Glass



Joseph E. Bondurant



William E. Richard

The Board of Directors announced the elevation of three executives, effective December 1, 1975.

Thomas A. Page, formerly senior vice president, became executive vice president responsible for all administrative, accounting and financial services of the Company; **Charles D. Glass**, formerly general marketing manager, became vice president responsible for all customer service relations; and **Joseph E. Bondurant**, formerly Lake Charles Division manager, was named vice president in charge of a new technical services department.

As a result of Bondurant's promotion, the following men were also promoted: **William E. Richard** to Lake Charles Division manager, **Edward M. Loggins** to Western Division manager, **Herman L. Hammack** to production manager, **Lonnie J. Cobb** to superintendent of Lewis Creek Station and **Floyd T. Langlois** to general maintenance supervisor at Lewis Creek.

Thomas A. Page

As executive vice president, Page assumes control over the rate and information and data processing departments. Those and other departments that report to him have begun evaluations of their organizations.

Page joined Gulf States in February, 1973, as treasurer. He was named senior vice president for finance two years later.

A native of Niagara Falls, N. Y., Page is a civil engineering graduate of Purdue University. He obtained a masters degree in industrial management from Purdue in 1963. He is a certified public accountant in Wisconsin, Texas and Louisiana and a licensed engineer in New York.

He had worked for an engineering and consulting firm and Wisconsin Power & Light prior to coming to Gulf States.

Page is an advisory director of First Security National Bank and a director of the Beaumont Art Museum.

He and his wife, Evelyn, have two children.

Charles D. Glass

Under Glass' supervision are the Company's market research, area development, consumer service, advertising and public relations functions.

A native of Mount Pleasant, Tex., Glass graduated from Texas A&M in engineering. He was employed by Gulf States in Beaumont in 1949 and later that year transferred to Lake

Charles as industrial engineer. Glass was transferred to Lafayette in 1962 and named commercial sales supervisor in Baton Rouge in 1965. Three years later he was promoted to division sales superintendent in Baton Rouge. Glass was transferred back to Beaumont in 1972 as general sales manager, later termed marketing manager. In Sept., 1975, he was promoted to the interim position of general marketing manager, pending the Directors' approval of his vice presidency.

Glass is married to the former Gretchen Elkins of Lake Charles. The couple has three daughters.

Joseph E. Bondurant

In his new position, Bondurant will be responsible for the system engineering and system planning departments as well as the quality assurance and radiation protection aspects of the Company's nuclear power group.

The promotion signals the beginning of a total review of the engineering department and its operations, according to Norman Lee, president.

Also, The Nuclear Regulatory Commission had recommended that the quality assurance activities be transferred from the jurisdiction of S. L. Adams, senior vice president, because Adams is also responsible for the construction of the Company's nuclear powered units. The move circumvents any possible conflicts of interest in the quality of the construction and frees Adams to concentrate on the construction.

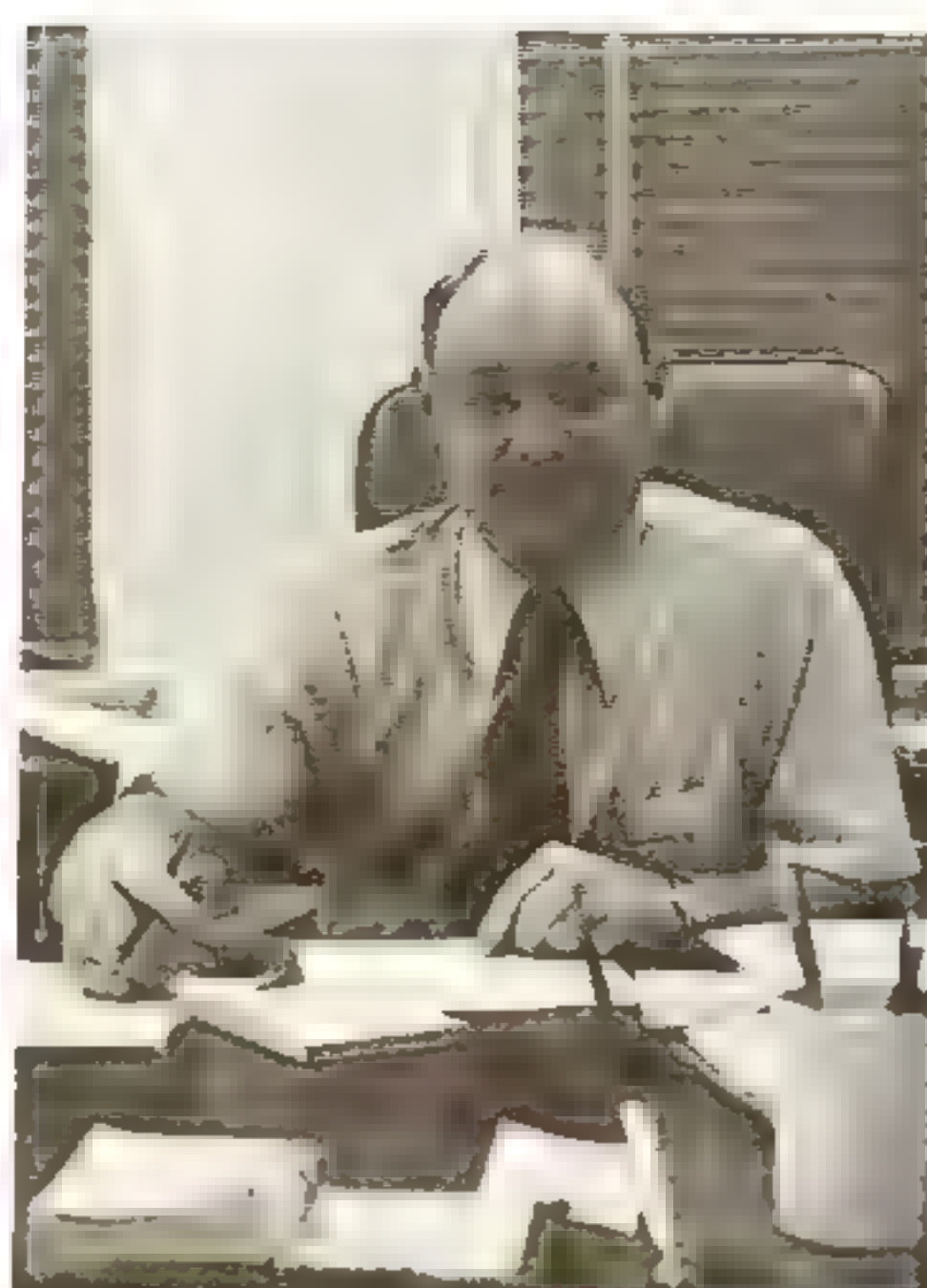
Bondurant is a native of Fulton, Ky., and an electrical engineering graduate of Georgia Tech University. He joined Gulf States in 1957 as an engineer in the Beaumont T&D department. He was transferred to the special projects section of system engineering in 1963 and was promoted to supervisor of scheduling two years later. He became Beaumont division engineer in 1966, operating supervisor in Lake Charles in 1967, operating superintendent in 1969 and division manager in 1971.

Bondurant completed the public utilities management course at the University of Michigan. He was past president of the Artist Civic Theater Studio, a director of the Lake Charles Memorial Hospital, vice president of the Greater Lake Charles Chamber of Commerce and a member of the Lake Charles Rotary Club and the Toastmaster's Club.

He is married to the former Sarah Garner of Atlanta, Ga.



Edward M. Loggins



Herman L. Hammack



Lonnie J. Cobb



Floyd T. Langlois

The couple has two daughters and attended Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, where Bondurant served as director of the Episcopal Day School.

William E. Richard

Richard is a native of Lake Charles but grew up in Beaumont. He graduated from Texas A&M in mechanical engineering in 1950 and worked as a student engineer at Gulf States. After serving two years' active duty with the U. S. Army in Germany, Richard was named industrial engineer in Lake Charles. He was transferred to Navasota in 1959 as industrial and area development engineer.

Returning to Beaumont in 1962, Richard was named supervisor of commercial sales and in 1964, superintendent of industrial and commercial sales for the system. He has served as Western Division manager since 1969.

Richard is married to the former Johanna Lorenzen of Dormstadt, Germany. The couple has three sons. Richard is active in YWCA, Boy Scout and Texas A&M alumni groups.

Edward M. Loggins

Loggins, a native of Winonia, Miss., and graduate of the University of Texas, has served in a number of engineering, sales and production department posts since joining Gulf States in 1958.

He began his career as an engineer in Navasota. He was transferred to Baton Rouge in 1960 as electrical engineer at Louisiana Station and, later, at Willow Glen Station. He was reassigned as Baton Rouge industrial sales engineer in 1964 and was promoted to the division's supervisor of industrial and commercial sales in 1968. One year later he was named director of system industrial sales.

Loggins was moved back into the production department in 1971 as superintendent of Sabine Station. He was named production manager in late 1974, serving for one year before moving to Conroe.

He is married to the former Patricia Smith of Hattiesburg, Miss. The couple has four children.

Lonnie J. Cobb

Cobb is a 15-year veteran with Gulf States. He served one year each as engineer in the T&D engineering and system pro-

duction departments in Beaumont before being transferred to Sabine Station as office engineer in 1962. Cobb moved back to the construction-production department in Beaumont in 1967.

He was named general maintenance supervisor at Lewis Creek in 1971.

A native of Bastrop, La., Cobb is a mechanical engineering graduate of Mississippi State University. He has also completed advanced training in nuclear engineering.

Cobb is married to the former Shirley Rogers of Houston. The couple has four teenage children.

Herman L. Hammack

Hammack was employed by Gulf States in 1958 as an engineer in the production department. He served as engineer in the relay and communications department from 1960 to 1964. Three years later Hammack was named system engineer in the system production department and promoted to electrical engineer.

He was moved to Lewis Creek and promoted to general maintenance supervisor in 1970. One year later he was installed as superintendent.

A native of Lampasas, Tex., Hammack was reared in Port Arthur. He served four years in the U.S. Air Force before returning to the Golden Triangle to attend Lamar University. He graduated with a degree in electrical engineering.

Hammack is married to the former Jane Boynum of Port Arthur. The couple has two children.

Floyd T. Langlois

Langlois joined Gulf States in 1952 as a junior engineer in Beaumont. He was named results engineer in 1954 and began a series of engineering and test positions at Neches Station, Willow Glen Station and Louisiana Station in 1958.

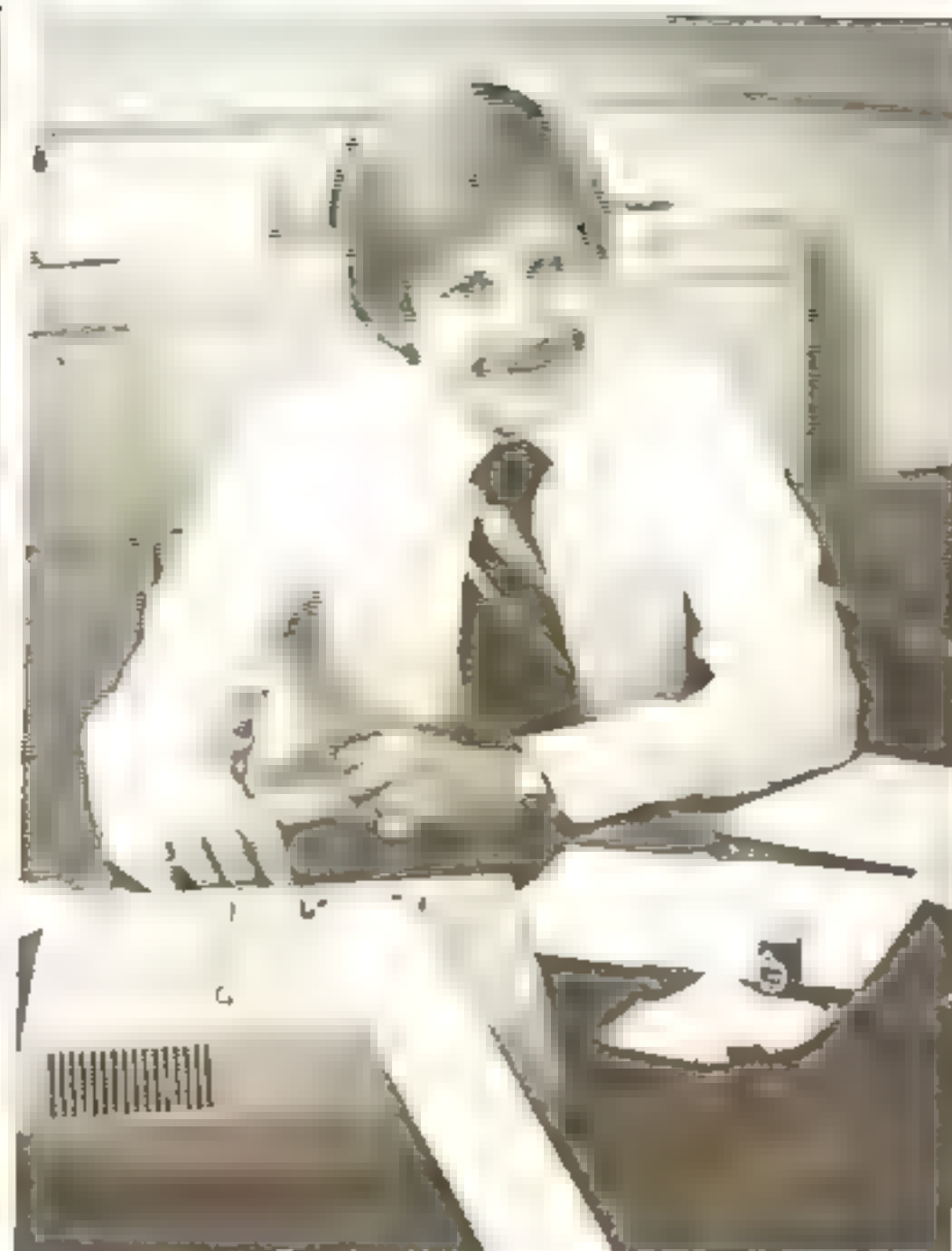
He was promoted to engineer in the system production department in 1968 and named director of technical services for the department in 1972.

A native of New Roads, La., Langlois was graduated from the University of Southwestern Louisiana with a degree in mechanical engineering. He served in the U.S. Navy from 1944 to 1946.

Langlois is married to the former Mary Madole of Beaumont. The couple has two children.



Jon H. Curless



John T. Jasper



Sandra S. Lyon



Hal G. Tierney

Jon H. Curless, John T. Jasper, Sandra S. Lyon and Hal G. Tierney have been promoted to senior administrative accountants.

A reorganization within plant accounting has resulted in the promotions of Curless and Jasper.

Curless, formerly administrative accountant in the financial services department, will direct the accounting for construction improvements and retirements in Louisiana. Jasper, formerly an administrative accountant within plant accounting, will do the same for Texas properties.



Harold W. "Mike" Newman

Harold W. "Mike" Newman, T&D engineer in Lake Charles, has been transferred to the design engineering construction section of the system engineering design department in Beaumont, where he will design transmission lines and substations for Texas divisions.

Newman is a 1971 electrical engineering graduate of the University of Texas at Arlington and spent four years in the U.S. Air Force. He joined Gulf States in Lake Charles in 1972.

Newman is a native of Wichita, Kan., and was reared in Valdosta, Ga. He is married to the former Sandra Lee Nolting of Bancroft, Neb. The couple has two children, Christopher Michael, 6; and Carrie Michelle, 2.

Newman is active in the Contraband Toastmasters Club in Lake Charles. He was a member of St. John's Lutheran Church, where he was a youth counselor and also assistant coach and second baseman/rover for the church's slow-pitch softball team.

Curless is a native of Baker, Montana, and a 1969 graduate from Sam Houston State College with a degree in economics. He had previously served five years in the U.S. Air Force.

Curless joined Gulf States in 1969 as an administrative accountant in general accounting. He is married to the former Nancy Richardson of Alvin. The couple has two children, Jared Todd, 3; and Amanda Kay, three months.

Curless is a member of the Central YMCA in Beaumont and St. Pius Catholic Church.

Jasper is a native of Fort Smith, Ark., and was graduated from the University of Arkansas in 1968 with a degree in business administration. He served 18 months in the U.S. Army as a combat engineer, including a tour in Vietnam, and joined the Company in 1970 as an administrative accountant in general accounting. He has also served in the accounts payable section.

He is married to the former Judy K. Shoffeitt of Beaumont. The couple has one child, Megan Jill, 10 months.

Mrs. Lyon will now handle the fuel accounting for Varibus.

She is a native of Groesbeck, Tex., and a 1970 accounting graduate from the University of Texas at Austin.

She is married to Jim Lyon, formerly of Baytown, and is a member of the American Association of University Women and the Live Wires Club.

The Lyons are members of the Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Port Neches.

Tierney is in charge of the accounting section which prepares reports to various regulatory agencies.

He is a native of Beaumont and was graduated in 1954 from the second four-year class at Lamar State College of Technology with a degree in business administration and an accounting major.

Tierney was named accountant in plant accounting in late 1959 and has served in classification accounting, financial reports, regulatory reports and general accounting.

He is married to the former Barbara Boersman of Port Arthur. The couple has two children: Kathleen, 9; and Sharon Ann, 3.

Tierney is past president of the Sabine Chapter of the National Association of Accountants (NAA) and the Beaumont Chapter of Toastmasters International. He has recently been appointed to the NAA's national membership committee. He has also been active in the South Beaumont Lions Club, the L. R. Pietzsch Elementary School P.T.A. and the South Park congregation of the Church of Christ.



Everett D. Hansen



James A. McLaughlin



John R. Butts Jr.

Everett D. Hansen, electrical maintenance supervisor at Louisiana Station, has been transferred to the Baton Rouge marketing department as an industrial engineer. Promoted to Hansen's former position in the power plant is **James A. McLaughlin**, engineer in the system production department in Beaumont.

Hansen is a native of Amory, Miss., and was graduated from Mississippi State College in 1956 with a degree in electrical engineering. He served three years in the U.S. Air Force.

Hansen joined the Company as a T&D engineer in Baton Rouge in 1966. He became engineer at Louisiana Station in 1968 and was promoted to electrical maintenance supervisor one year later.

Hansen is past chairman of the Baton Rouge section of the Institute of Electronics and Electrical Engineers. He is a member of the First United Methodist Church of Baton Rouge.

A native of Beaumont, McLaughlin was graduated from Rice University with a degree in electrical engineering and had spent four years in the U.S. Army.

He is married to the former Frances Sturdevant of Paris, France. The couple has three children.

McLaughlin is a member of the Institute of Electronics and Electrical Engineers.

John R. Butts Jr., administrative accountant in the accounting services department, has been transferred to the financial services department and promoted to financial analyst.

In his new position, Butts will help analyze and develop the Company's financial planning. He will also work with the stock exchanges, the Federal Power Commission and the Securities and Exchange Commission in the implementation of Gulf States financing.

Butts is a native of Mt. Pleasant, Mich., and a 1970 graduate from Stephen F. Austin State University in management.

He joined the Company in 1970 as an administrative accountant in plant accounting and has served in a similar capacity in financial and regulatory reports and general accounting.

Butts is married to the former Teddy Tucker of Nacogdoches. The couple has two children: John T. III (Trey), 2½; and Robin Lynn, nine months.



William J. Reed

William J. Reed, T&D engineer in Baton Rouge, has been transferred to the power plant engineering and design department in Beaumont. Reed will help coordinate the licensing efforts for the River Bend and Blue Hills nuclear power plant projects.

A native of Little Rock, Reed has bachelors and masters degrees in mechanical engineering from the University of Arkansas.

He joined Gulf States as an engineer in the system production department in 1973 and was transferred to Baton Rouge after six months.

He is married to the former Elizabeth Ann Elliott of Oklahoma City. The couple has one daughter, Megan Elizabeth, who was born May 24.

Reed holds a membership in the South Texas section of the American Nuclear Society. He has completed the basic health physics short course at Louisiana State University, a management relations course and the Nuclear Utility Services course.



J. Larry Smith

J. Larry Smith, senior internal auditor, has been transferred to the power plant construction department and promoted to the new position of construction accountant for the River Bend Project, where he will be responsible for site accounting and site security during construction.

Smith will serve as the liason with the contractor and insure that all materials are received and stored properly so as not to be stolen, lost or damaged after arriving on the site.

Smith was graduated from the University of Southwestern Louisiana with a degree in accounting and business administration and has been with the Company since 1968.

He is also a four-year veteran of the Navy.

He and his wife, the former Betty Guidry, hail from Church Point. The couple has two children, Sharon and Kirk.

Smith is an active member of the YMCA and the International Accountants Society and is a group project leader for the Bevil Oaks 4-H club. The Smiths are members of St. Pius Catholic Church in Beaumont.

Promoted to senior internal auditor to take Smith's place is **Robert Gary Guye**, formerly administrative accountant in stores and salvage of the accounting services department.

Guye is a business administration grad-



Robert Gary Guye

uate of Sam Houston State University and joined the Company in 1969 as an administrative accountant in plant accounting.

He became an internal auditor four months later and was transferred to stores and salvage in 1973.

Guye is married to the former Laura Jeanne Davidson of Pasadena, Tex. The couple has one daughter, Amy Rachelle, 7 months.

The Guyes are members of the First Baptist Church in Beaumont, where they teach Sunday School to 3-year-olds.



Robert H. Pohl

Robert H. Pohl, engineer in the Port Arthur T&D department, has been transferred to the system engineering planning department in Beaumont, where he will plan transmission lines in the Texas divisions.

A native of Marshall, Tex., Pohl is a 1970 electrical engineering graduate of Texas A&M University and a two-year veteran of the U. S. Army. He joined Gulf States in Port Arthur in 1970.

Pohl is married to the former Betty Bailey of Bryan. The couple has no children.



Charles S. McManus

Charles S. McManus, local superintendent in Hull, has been given the added responsibility of the Sour Lake district following the retirement of Edgar Mathis.

A native of Liberty, McManus joined Gulf States in 1947 as a T&D helper in his home town. He was promoted to serviceman in 1959 and to Hull superintendent in 1967.

He is married to the former Dahlia Cook of Center, Tex. The couple has a son, Dudley; and three daughters, Elizabeth Ann, Marian and Leslie.

McManus is a deacon in the First Baptist Church in Daisetta and a member of the Liberty Masonic Lodge.

Olice A. Steward, insurance administrator, has been promoted to director of risk management, with responsibility for all insurance and related programs.

"This move is a recognition by the Company of the true function of managing the risks the Company encounters," Steward said. "My office is interested in protecting the assets of the Company against loss." Such assets include buildings and equipment owned by Gulf States and the Company's earnings.

"An insurance policy is normally the last option you want to use," he said. "Administering policies is a very small portion of my job." Other ways of covering potential losses include self-insuring the risk, transferring the risk to construction contractors and working to reduce the risk of losses through inspections.

Steward is a native of Corsicana, Tex. He attended Navarro Junior College and was graduated from Lamar Tech in 1962 with a degree in industrial management.

He was an administrative assistant in the Corporate and Finance Department before being named insurance and claims representative in January, 1969. He was promoted to insurance administrator in 1973.

Steward is active in civic and professional societies. He is past president of the Hardin-Jefferson Optimist Club, past vice president of the board of directors and also tax assessor-collector for the



Hardin County Water Control and Improvement District. He has also served as a trustee of the Hardin-Jefferson Independent School District. He is secretary to the Board of Governors of Pinewood Country Club and member of several industrial committees for risk management.

Steward is married to the former Gail Wood of Corsicana. The couple has one son. The family attends the First Methodist Church of Sour Lake.



Molly F. Falgoust, formerly personnel department clerk in Baton Rouge, has been promoted to employment interviewer.

A native of Centreville, Miss., Mrs. Falgoust was graduated from Louisiana State University in 1971. She was hired by Gulf States later that year as a clerk in the Baton Rouge division accounting department.

She was promoted to personnel department clerk in 1973.

She is married to Michael James Falgoust, a native of St. James, La.



John E. Landry

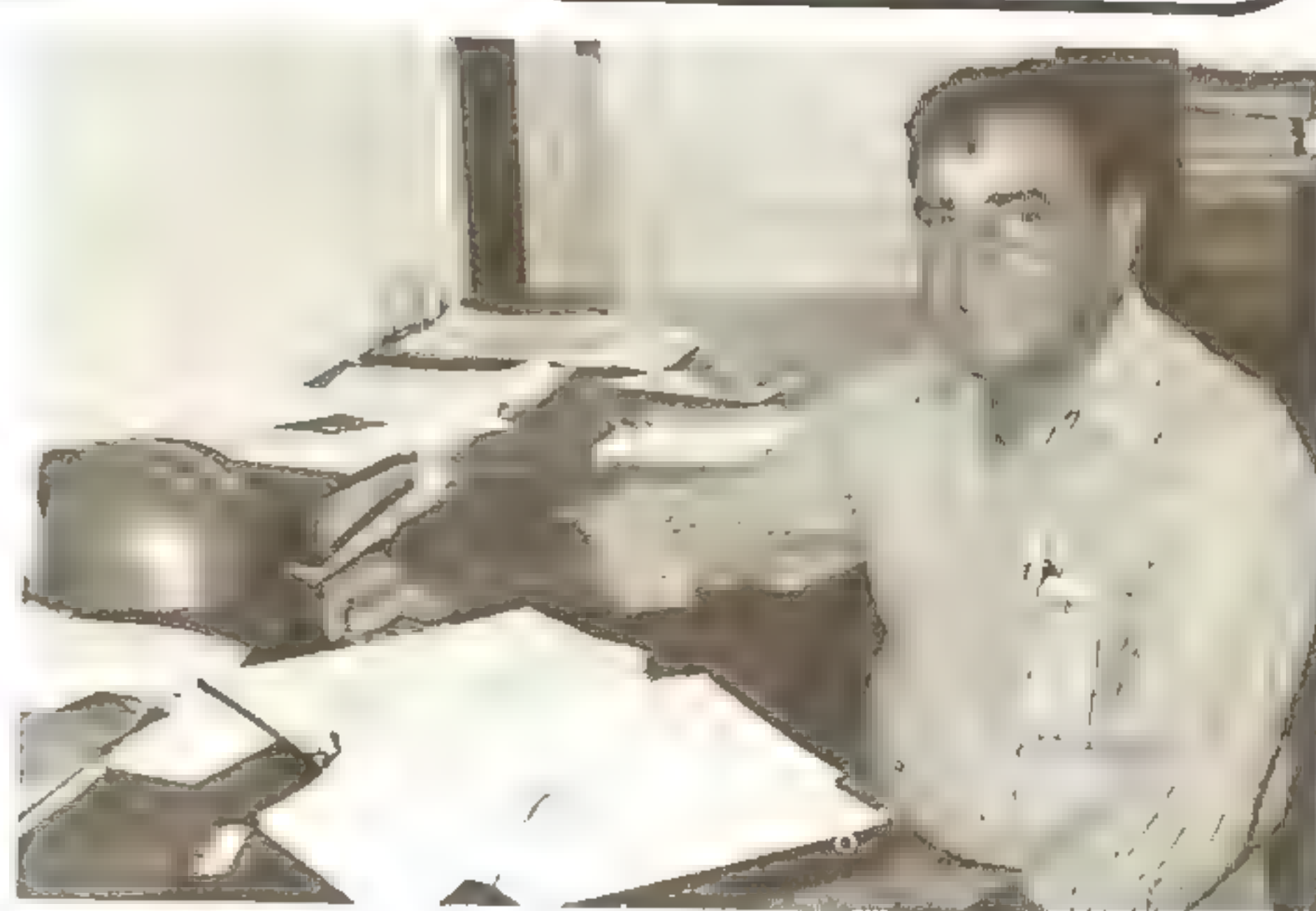
Two promotions were announced in the Lafayette T&D line department.

John E. Landry, utility foreman, has been promoted to line foreman; and **James C. Daigle**, serviceman first class, has been promoted to utility foreman.

Landry is a native of Le Roy, La., and a graduate of Indian Bayou High School. He served in the South Pacific during World War II and joined Gulf States as a helper in the Lafayette T&D line department in 1948.

He was promoted to utility foreman in 1967.

Landry is married to the former Hazel Richard of Lafayette. The couple has two sons, Ronald and Patrick.



James C. Daigle

The Landrys are members of St. Genevieve Catholic Church. Landry is president of the Father Teurlings High School Booster Club and is active in scouting, Little League and the Knights of Columbus.

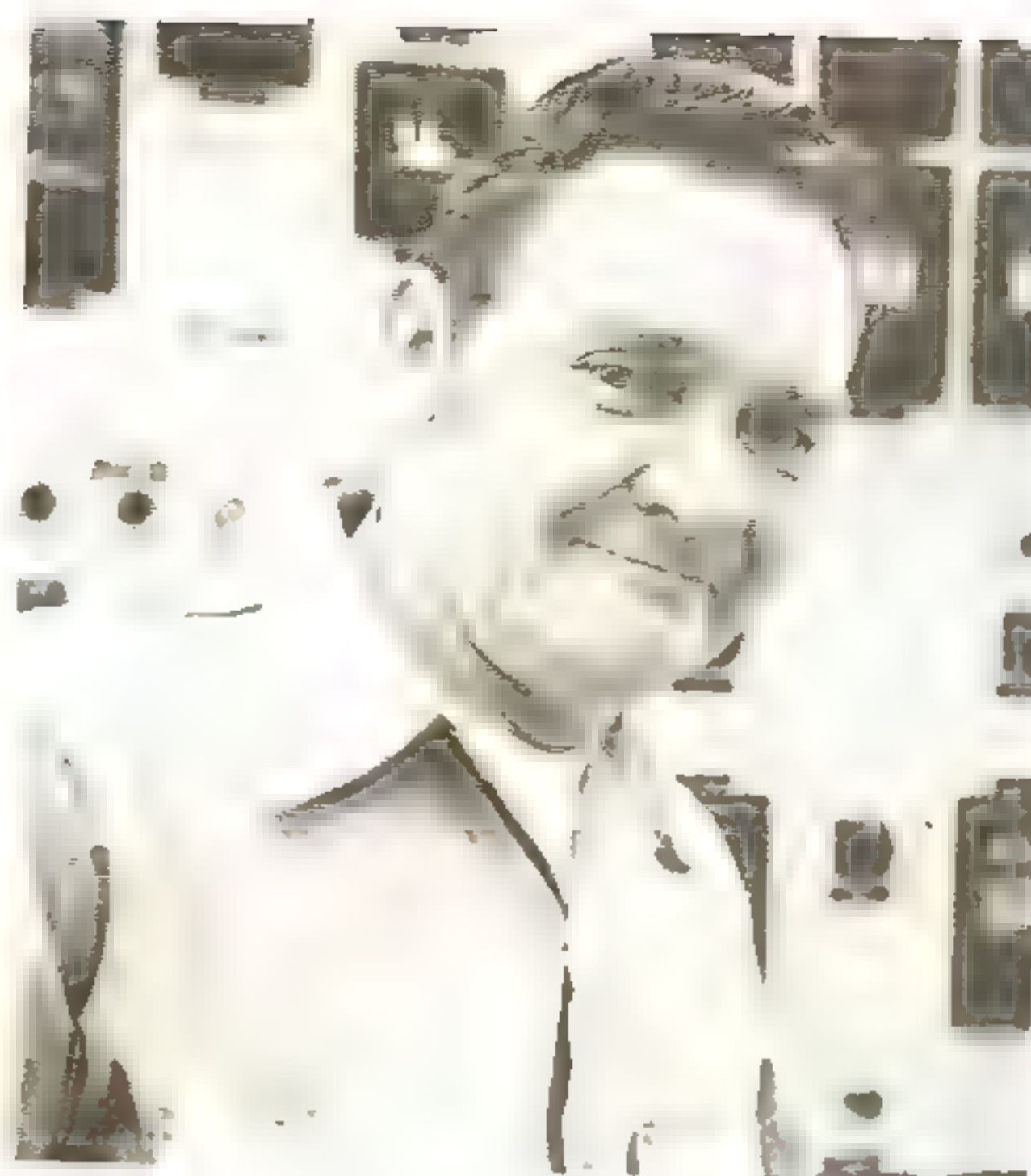
Daigle is a native of Algiers, La., where he attended Behrman High School. He served in the U. S. Marine Corps three years during World War II before joining the Company in 1946 as a helper in the T&D line department in Lafayette.

Daigle is married to the former Verlie Judice of Judice Community, La. The couple has five children, ranging in ages from 29 to 9. The family attends St. Basile Catholic Church.

Daigle is an active member of the American Legion.



Victor H. Bradley



Charles O. Baer



Robert C. Hebert

Three men were promoted July 1, 1975, in Neches and Nelson stations.

Victor H. Bradley, formerly control operations foreman at Neches Station, was promoted to shift supervisor. **Charles O. Baer**, formerly head fireman, was named control operations foreman.

At Nelson Station, **Robert C. Hebert**, formerly equipment operator, was promoted to control operations foreman.

Bradley began in 1948 as an operator's helper at Neches Station. He progressed through several classifications and was named equipment operator in 1958, turbine engineer in 1966 and control opera-

tions foreman in 1969.

A native of Beaumont, Bradley was graduated from South Park High School and served two and a half years in the Navy during World War II.

He is married to the former Martha J. Broussard of Port Neches. The couple has four children.

Baer joined Gulf States in 1946 as an operator's helper at Neches Station. He progressed through the ranks to turbine engineer in 1952, switchboard operator in 1956 and head fireman in 1959.

A native of Baytown, Baer was educated at South Park High School and

served in the U. S. Navy three years.

He is married to the former Dorothy Barnes. The couple has four children.

Hebert has been at Nelson Station 13 years. He began as an operator's helper in 1963 and progressed to equipment operator nearly four years later.

Hebert is a native of Jennings and attended Westlake High School and McNeese State College. He is married to the former Patricia Ann Tower of Westlake.

Hebert is an active member of the World's Sunfish Racing Class Sailing Association.



James R. Cornelius

James R. Cornelius, right-of-way supervisor, has been promoted to system supervisor of land rights, taking over the duties of Ben Fanette, who retired Sept. 1, 1975.

He has responsibility for all Company-owned lands and rights-of-way.

Born in Hope, Ark., Cornelius later moved to Beaumont where he was graduated from Beaumont High School and attended Lamar Tech.

He joined the Company in 1951 as a rod and chainman in Beaumont. He was promoted to estimate man, senior engineering assistant and right-of-way man in Beaumont before being named supervisor of survey and right-of-way in Lake Charles in 1966. Four years later he was promoted to system right-of-way supervisor in the Main Office.

Cornelius is married to the former Pat Clawson of Beaumont. The couple has three daughters: Deborah Sue Granger and Pamala Jean Edwards, both married, and Karry Lynn Cornelius, a radiology technician at Baptist Hospital in Beaumont.

Joseph F. Domino, formerly engineer in the T&D department, has been transferred to the production department.

Domino's duties include engineering liaison with electrical problems of the system's power plants and switchyards and general engineering supervision of Nelson Station. Current projects are the installation of heat rate computers to measure the efficiency of power plants and the rebuilding of a cooling tower at Nelson Station.

A native of New Orleans, Domino holds a bachelor's degree from Louisiana



Joseph F. Domino

State University and a master's degree from Lamar University.

He was hired by Gulf States in 1970 as an engineer in the system engineering planning department. He moved to T&D two years later.

Domino is past president of the Beaumont Northwest Lions Club and a lector at St. Anne's Catholic Church. He is married to the former Linda Lombardo of Franklin, La. The couple has one son.



Frank O. Groves

Three members of the purchasing department have been promoted.

Frank O. Groves, formerly purchasing agent, is now senior purchasing agent in charge of all purchasing agents.

Promoted to purchasing agent from assistant purchasing agent are **J. Wesley Simpson** in Beaumont and **George E. Kelley** in Baton Rouge.

Groves joined the Company in 1967 as an assistant purchasing agent. He was promoted to purchasing agent in 1972.

A native of Boling, Tex., Groves is a 1961 graduate of Sam Houston State University with a degree in business administration.

He is a charter member and past president of both the Lumberton Lions Club and the Country Lane Town Council and currently president of the Lumberton Municipal Utility District. He is married to the former Carol Tassin of Alexandria, La. The couple has two children.

Simpson has general responsibility for purchases for the Western Division as well as systemwide purchases of cable and transmission poles. He also buys distribution poles and chemicals for all divisions except for the Baton Rouge Division.

A native of Silsbee, Simpson is a 1966 graduate of Lamar University in business administration. He served three years in the U. S. Army, including one year as a medical clerk in a M*A*S*H-like unit in Vietnam.

He joined Gulf States in 1969 as an assistant purchasing agent.

He is active in the Sabine-Neches Area Purchasing Management Association and the First Baptist Church of Silsbee.

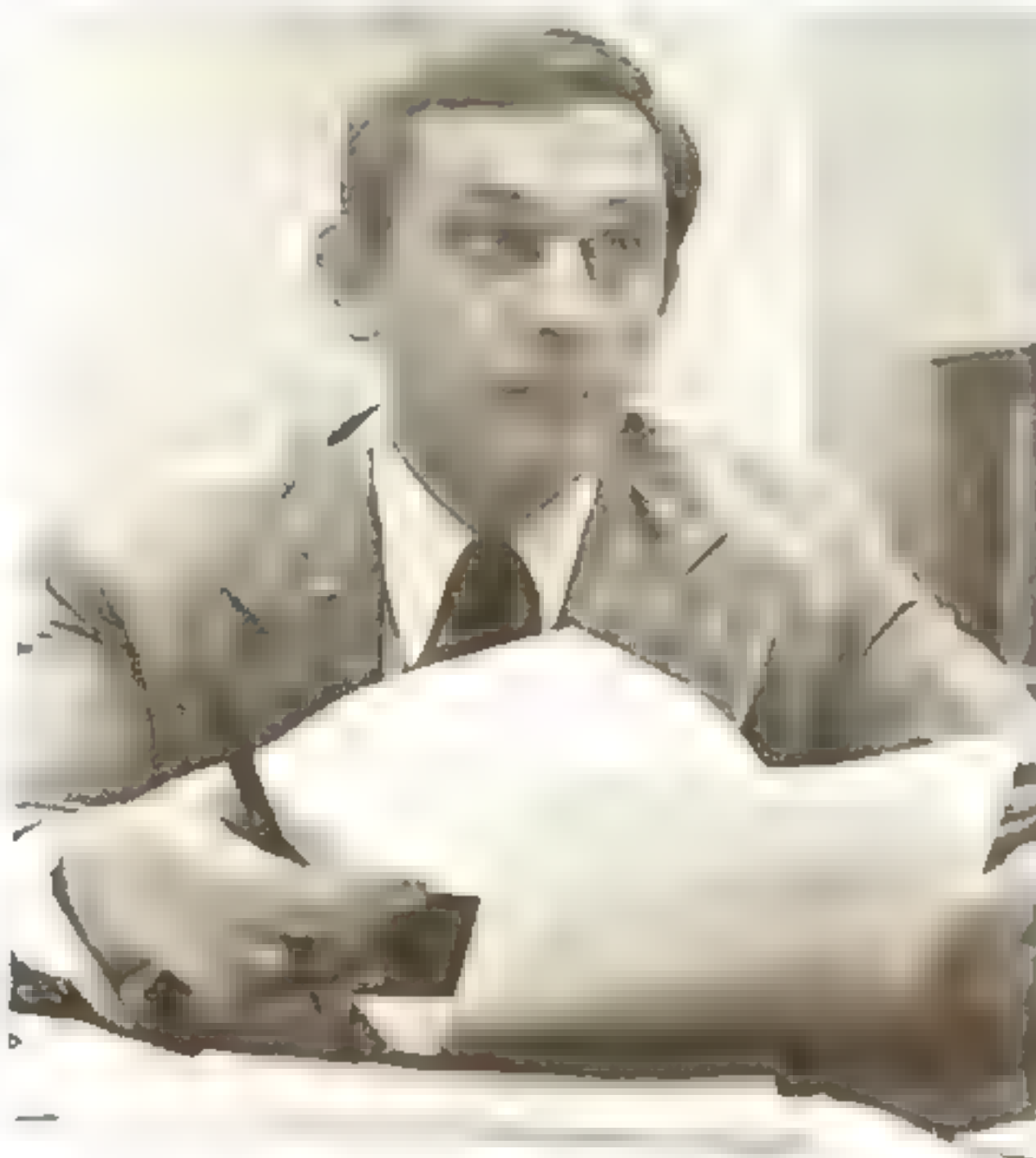
He is married to the former Martha Ann Cook of Silsbee. The couple has two children.

Kelley purchases all goods for the Baton Rouge Division except conductors, transmission poles, transformers and switches. He also handles local construction contracts.



J. Wesley Simpson

A native of Jennings, Kelley is a business graduate from the University of Southwestern Louisiana and joined Gulf States in 1967 as an assistant purchasing



William F. Malec

William F. Malec joined the Company Sept. 8, 1975, as assistant treasurer.

A cum laude graduate of Niagara University in business and holder of an MBA in finance from Indiana University, Malec will work as liaison with investment brokers, financial analysts and commercial bankers as Gulf States arranges long and short-term financing. He will also be involved in the Company's financial planning and analysis and investor relations.

Malec has worked as assistant treasurer for Mid Continent Telephone Corp., a holding company for independent telephone companies. He has also worked for Cleveland Electric Illuminating Co.

Malec is a native of Broadalbin, N. Y. He is married to the former Sarah Powell of Amsterdam, N. Y. The couple has two children.

The Malecs attend St. Ann's Catholic Church.



George E. Kelley

agent in Baton Rouge.

Kelley is married to the former Ingrid Loewer of Branch, La. The couple has one son.



Ralph M. "Mickey" Knobloch

Ralph M. "Mickey" Knobloch, formerly purchasing agent in Baton Rouge, has been transferred to River Bend Station in the power plant construction department and promoted to senior purchasing agent.

He will have jurisdiction over all field procurement for the nuclear plant.

A native of Beaumont, Knobloch joined Gulf States in 1956 following his graduation from Lamar Tech with a degree in history. He held various positions in the customer accounts, general accounts and purchasing departments before being transferred to Baton Rouge in 1963 as supervisor of credit and collections. He was named purchasing agent in 1967.

Knobloch is married to the former Rosemary Hunter of Beaumont. The couple has two daughters.

RETIREMENTS

Harold C. Westrope

Harold C. Westrope, a Lake Charles T&D employe for nearly 30 years, retired June 1.

A native of Walters, Okla., Westrope was graduated from high school in Conroe and joined the Company as a helper in Lake Charles in 1945 after a five-year stint in the military during World War II.

He rose through the ranks in the line department and transferred to the service department in 1948. Westrope transferred again to the substation department in 1972 as a mechanic.

Westrope is married to the former Mae Fontenot of Elton, La. The couple has two teenage daughters, Mary Ann Jeffers and Patricia Ann Westrope. They are members of Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church.

Westrope is a member of the Lake Charles Chapter of the Association of Retired Citizens.

He said he "enjoyed every moment" of his work at Gulf States.



RETIREES NEWS

The Side Liner's Club, a club for Gulf States' annuitants, held a meeting May 24 in Abbeville, La., hosted by Sabre "Pop" Guidry.

Current officers of the club were re-elected for another term. They are: **Walter House**, president; **D. I. Norwood**, vice president; **Phil Allen**, secretary-treasurer; **A. E. Hine**, Jennings District representative; and **R. E. Compton**, Lafayette District representative.

Serving on the Advisory Committee are: **A. H. Demers**, **Lee Henry**, **J. F. Simonson**, **W. A. Thomson**, **Lillian Ferguson**, **Fay Denney**, **Guidry** and **Ernest Little**. Little also heads the Social Committee.

After a buffet lunch at the Heritage Inn, part of the group was treated to homemade Cherry Bounce at Guidry's home. Guidry soaked cherries from the tree growing in his yard in brandy for one year.

Retirees interested in joining the club can get more information from **Walter House**, 3116 2nd Ave., Lake Charles, La. 70601.

House, by the way, has five members of his family of whom he is very proud, according to Janet Followay, *Plain Talks* reporter in Lake Charles.

His son-in-law, **James E. Taussig II**, was named director of Gulf States May

14. His daughter-in-law, **Barbara W. House**, received her masters degree in library science from Louisiana State University on May 16. On that same day, **House's** son, **Walter R. House Jr.**, received his Juris Doctor from LSU and was inducted into the Order of the Coif, a national legal honor society. The elder **House's** daughter, **Helen Boyer**, is busy campaigning for her brother-in-law, **Bob Jones**, a candidate for governor of Louisiana. Finally, **Elizabeth Taussig**, **Walter's** granddaughter, was graduated from high school at Sacred Heart Academy in Grand Coteau on May 30.

Emery Pintsch sent *Plain Talks* a post card from Juneau, Alaska, during his two-week cruise up the Pacific coast from Seattle to Sitka.

Highlights of the 2,100-mile voyage included Mt. Rainer, Butchart Gardens on Victoria Island, the Mendenhall Glacier outside Juneau, the icebergs in Glacier Bay, Lake Bennett in Canada and Vancouver.

"Frisco was my favorite city until I saw Vancouver," **Pintsch** said. "Now it's a tossup. We were taken on a tour of homes and parks. I thought I had a pretty backyard until I saw theirs."

A by-product of **Pintsch's** recent vacation is that nearly every other word of description is "gorgeous."

Two Gulf States retirees recently celebrated golden wedding anniversaries.

Ken Sutton and his wife, **Nora**, were wed 50 years on April 21. **Pamphile Donaldson** celebrated his half century of marriage to **Mabyn** on May 28.

The **Suttons** hosted more than 200 "grand friends of the grand parents" at a reception April 20th at **Moncla's** in Beaumont.

Kenneth Jr. traveled from Albuquerque, N. Mex.; a daughter came from King George, Va., and a niece from Omaha, Neb. attended. Many friends and kinfolk from Woodville, Houston, San Antonio and Lake Charles also wished the **Suttons** a happy day.

The **Suttons** met when both worked on the *Beaumont Journal*. He was a feature writer and she the editor of the weekly "Junior Journal" supplement for school children.

The **Donaldsons** met when she was teaching business education at Shady Grove, where **Pamphile's** father was president of the school board.

She has taught for 39 years. **Pamphile** hired on at Gulf States in 1945 as a helper. He was repairman first class when he took a disability retirement in 1961.

He had recently broken a rib in an accident, so the couple held a quiet celebration at their home. **Mrs. Donaldson** baked a special cake for the occasion.

RETIREMENTS



Jerome M. Stokes

Jerome M. Stokes, senior vice president, retired Dec. 1, 1975, after 39 years with the Company.

A native of San Antonio, Stokes attended public schools there and in Victoria, Tex. He received his L. L. B. degree in 1939 from the East Texas College of Law and was admitted to the bar in 1940.

He joined Gulf States in 1936 in the engineering department. He was transferred to the advertising department in 1945 and named assistant advertising director two years later. In 1950 he became supervisor of employee publications.

Stokes was promoted to claims agent in 1956 and to system claims director the following year. He was promoted to assistant personnel manager in 1962 and succeeded Bill Gieseke as vice president for finance and secretary in 1964. He was elevated to senior vice president for finance in 1969.

Stokes was also president of Varibus Corp., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Gulf States.

Stokes is a member of the State Bar of Texas; the Beaumont Chamber of Commerce, serving as chairman of the drainage committee; the Young Men's Business League; Key Men's Club and is a former president of the Advertising Club of Beaumont. He is an elder of the Westminster Presbyterian Church.

Stokes has completed the Harvard University Advanced Management Course and the Public Utilities Management Course at the University of Michigan.

He is married to the former Margaretta Murphree of Victoria. The couple has two sons.

Stokes said his retirement is filled with plans to "travel, read, work on my stereo tape library, enjoy music and lower my golf handicap."

C. A. "Butch" Ibach, director of plant design for the power plant engineering



C. A. "Butch" Ibach

and design department, retired Dec. 1, 1975, after 45 years with the Company.

A native of West Sunbury, Pa., Ibach was graduated from the Williamson Trade School in Media, Pa., and hired by Gulf States in 1930. He worked through various operating classifications at Louisiana Station, attaining the post of efficiency engineer in 1954. He was Sabine Station's first superintendent, serving from 1961 until 1971, when he was named director of plant design.

Ibach is married to the former Lillian Fluitt of Chatham, La. The couple has one son.

Ibach is active in the Orange (Tex.) Optimist Club, Orange Shrine Club, Orange County Salvation Army, and the Masonic Lodge.

He plans to travel, fish and golf during retirement, and maybe do some part-time work.



Clarence M. Hereford

Clarence M. Hereford, lineman first class in Beaumont, retired Aug. 1, 1975, after nearly 48 years with the Company.

A native of Burtram, Tex., Hereford was hired in Conroe as a helper in 1927. He worked in Cleveland, Huntsville and Madisonville before coming to Beaumont in 1936 as an apprentice lineman. He became lineman first class in 1941.

Robert Fields, special laborer at Louisiana Station, retired Oct. 1, 1975, after working nearly 32 years in the power plant.

Fields was born near Zachary and hired as a laborer at Louisiana Station in 1943. He was named special laborer in 1974.

Kenneth L. Jumel, director of employee benefits, retired Dec. 1, 1975, after 45 years with Gulf States.

A native of Baton Rouge, Jumel was hired by the Baton Rouge Electric Co. in 1930 as a pipefitter's helper in the gas



Kenneth Jumel



Weightman Gautreaux

department. Not the least of his qualifications was his baseball ability. He played for his boss' weekend semi-pro baseball team based in New Roads.

He transferred to the accounting department in 1932 and moved to Beaumont in 1948 as a classification clerk. He was promoted to a supervisory position in 1950 and became director of payroll and benefits administration in 1969.

He is married to the former Ory M. Alexander. The couple has one son.

Weightman P. Gautreaux, service supervisor for the Baton Rouge gas department, will retire March 1 after more than 43 years' service to the Company.

A native of Gonzales, Gautreaux joined the gas department in 1932 and rose to serviceman. He was promoted to assistant service foreman in 1953 and service foreman in 1956. He was named service supervisor in 1970.

Gautreaux is the last member of Walter Bagot's semi-pro baseball team to retire from Gulf States. He and Ken Jumel (see Jumel's retirement) among others — were chosen to work for the gas department largely because of their baseball talents. Gautreaux covered center field.

Gautreaux remembers two disasters that cut off gas service to Baton Rouge as his most memorable moments. A flood broke a main in 1934 and the entire city was without gas for a couple of days. In 1956, a fire at the United Gas feed station stopped gas to 38,000 customers.

"We had hundreds of outsiders come in to help because we had to cut off every customer's meter before we could open up the main. Then we had to go back and open the meters."

Gautreaux is married to the former Mattie Louise Root of Sulphur. He has one daughter and two grandchildren. He plans to relax, garden and travel whenever possible.



J. Ben Fanette



Fred F. Parent

J. Ben Fanette, director of real estate, retired Dec. 1, 1975, after 41 years' service to the Company.

The Fields, La., native was hired by Gulf States in 1934 as a rod and chainman in the Beaumont survey section. He progressed to field engineer in 1941, survey party chief in 1945, surveyor supervisor in 1947 and right-of-way supervisor in 1956. He was named director of real estate in 1970.

He is married to the former Lucy A. Evans of Baton Rouge. The couple has four children.

A member of the Beaumont Board of Realtors and the Southeastern Electric Exchange Real Estate Committee, Fanette plans to work for a Beaumont real estate firm after his retirement.

Fred F. Parent, senior residential sales representative in Port Arthur, retired Aug. 1, 1975, with more than 38 years with Gulf States in Port Arthur.

A native of Cade, La., Parent was graduated from Port Arthur High School and Port Arthur Business College. He was hired as a district representative in 1937. He became a customer service representative in 1942 and an appliance repair helper six months later. Parent was promoted to appliance repairman first class in 1945 and to senior residential salesman in 1949.

He has been treasurer of the Lakeview Lions Club for the past 10 years of his 22-year membership. He is also a member of the Fraternal Order of the Eagles — Aerie 228.

Parent is married to the former Margaret Bonin of Jeanerette, La.

They plan to take a short vacation and fish with friends in Louisiana.

Parent most fondly remembers a table and floor lamp campaign that netted him \$300 and his winning two color television sets for his selling.

He plans to operate a small electric appliance repair shop at his home as a hobby.

Ruth W. Stine, executive secretary, will retire March 1, after exactly 37 years' service to Gulf States.

A native of the Panama Canal Zone, Miss Stine was graduated from Beaumont High School and South Park Junior College. She joined Gulf States on March 1, 1939, as a stenographer in the accounting department. She was named executive secretary in the corporate and finance department in 1948 and records management supervisor in 1956. Three years later she became executive secretary for the executive department, most recently working for Jerry Stokes and Tom Page.

Miss Stine plans to travel, sew, visit friends and possibly Great Britain and continue helping at St. Mark's Episcopal Church.



Ruth W. Stine



Annie J. Hebert

Annie J. Hebert, PBX operator in Port Arthur, retired Jan. 1 after more than 33 years with Gulf States.

A native of Fullerton, La., Mrs. Hebert was educated in Leesville and was hired by the Company as a customer contact representative in Port Arthur in 1942. Six months later she moved to the PBX board.

She plans to travel some and work with her garden and flowers during her retirement.

Elouiesse B. Akins, customer accounts clerk in Lake Charles, retired Feb. 1 after 27 years with Gulf States.

Miss Akins is a native of Crowley but was educated in Lake Charles schools. She joined the Company in 1949 as a customer accounts clerk.

She was renowned for her imaginative packaging of simple gifts to coworkers at office parties or showers (see *Plain Talks*, Jan. — Feb., 1975.)

Miss Akins plans to take a trip this summer to Chicago and the upper Midwest to see some sights she's always wanted to see — like North Dakota.

Another goal is to wade across the Mississippi River — near its source in Minnesota.



John Lee Barrett



Sedonia M. Louviere

John Lee Barrett, district serviceman in Madisonville, retired Feb. 1 after more than 45 years' service to the Company.

Born and raised in Madisonville, Barrett started working part-time for Gulf States in 1929. He was hired full time in the ice department in 1931. He was promoted to serviceman in 1936 and to district serviceman in 1945.

Barrett retired from the Madisonville Volunteer Fire Department 10 years ago after 30 years' service. He was fire chief for 10 of those years.

He is past master of the Madisonville Masonic Lodge #740 and past patron of the Order of the Eastern Star. Barrett has served as deacon at the First Baptist Church of Madisonville for 22 years.

He is married to the former Jacie Winborn. The couple has one son and one granddaughter.

Barrett plans to retire to his cattle farm near Madisonville — fishing and hunting during any leisure time.

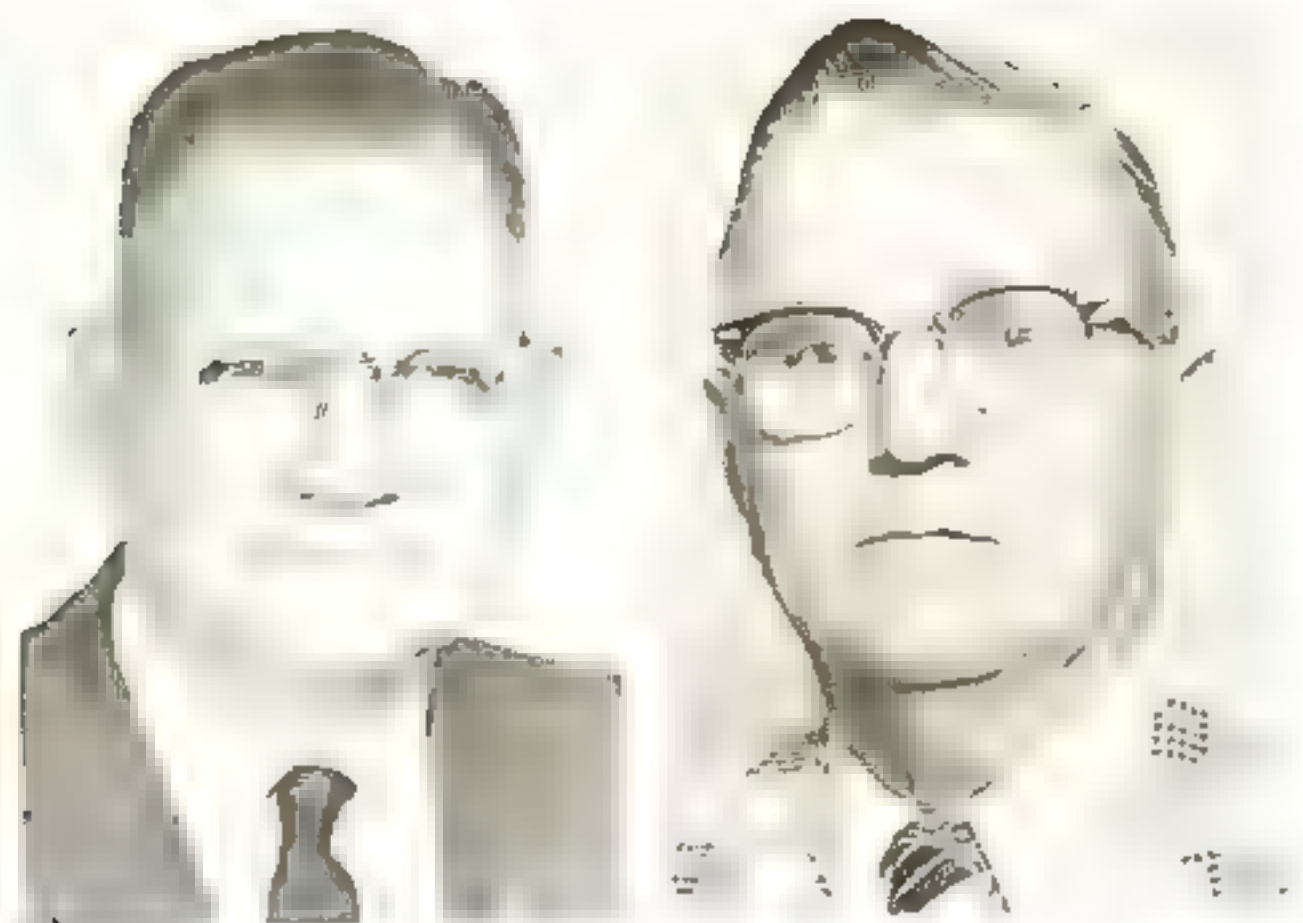
Sedonia M. Louviere, customer accounting clerk in Baton Rouge, retired Sept. 1, 1975, with 32 years' service.

A native of Convent, La., Miss Louviere was graduated from Istrouma High School in Baton Rouge and Baton Rouge Business College. She joined the Company as a stores accounting clerk in 1943. She became a customer accounting clerk in 1949.

Her retirement is filled with plans to work on ceramics and painting — two new hobbies for her — to travel, to try out some of the home service recipes she'd collected over the years and possibly to fish — "if there's time left."



Elouiesse B. Akins



Herman F. Sockrider Perry A. Dickinson

Herman F. Sockrider, district accountant in Lake Charles, retired Feb. 1 after nearly 48 years with the Company.

A native of Jennings, Sockrider was graduated from Jennings High School and Port Arthur Business College before joining the Company in 1928 as a clerk in his hometown.

He was transferred to Lake Charles one year later. He progressed through the ranks of division accounting — also serving seven months in the ice department — and was promoted to supervisor of customer accounts in 1947. He was named assistant to the chief clerk in 1953 and district accountant four years later.

He is married to the former Beatrice Davis of Shreveport. The couple has two children and six grandchildren. They are members of the First United Methodist Church in Lake Charles, where Sockrider is president of the Sunday School class.

He plans to "work in the yard at home and relax afterwards."

Perry A. Dickinson, assistant general line foreman in Lake Charles, retired Oct. 1, 1975.

A native of Norwood, La., Dickinson was employed by Gulf States in 1941 as a helper on a Lake Charles line crew. He was named foreman eight years later and assistant general line foreman in 1963.

He is married to the former Lyvonne Jones of Lake Charles. The couple has one son and two grandchildren.

Dickinson expects to work around the house, fish and travel a little during his retirement.



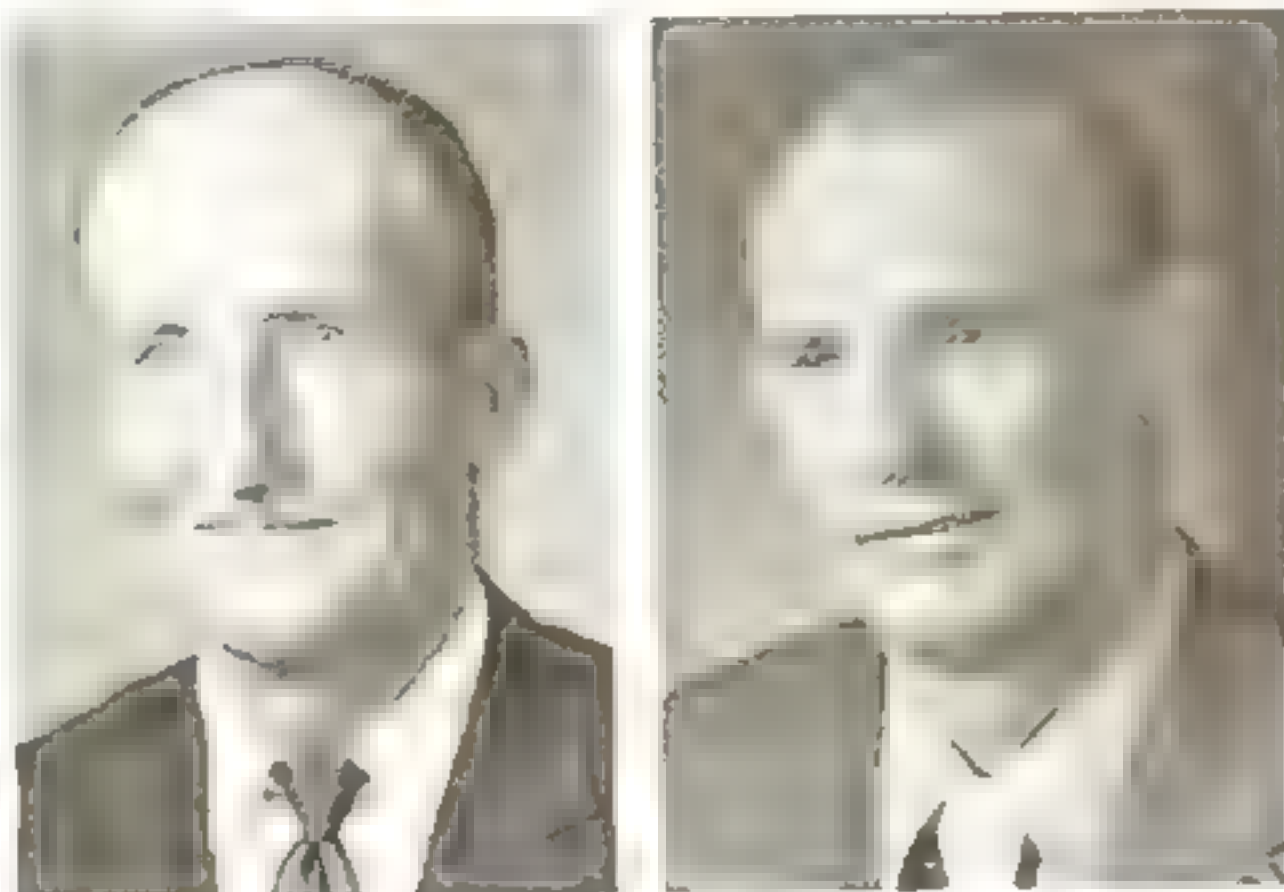
Edward J. Bello

Clarence Patterson, T&D utility man in Navasota, retired Feb. 1, with 29 years' service.

A native of Navasota, Patterson was hired by Gulf States there as a laborer in 1947. He moved to the water department in 1948 as a helper and to a similar position in the T&D department three years later. Patterson was named utility man in 1969.

Atkins O. McLaughlin, storeroom assistant in Port Arthur, retired July 1, 1975.

McLaughlin was born and educated in the Cayman Islands, south of Cuba. He joined Gulf States in 1952 as a helper in the Port Arthur T&D department. He was named storeroom assistant in 1964.



Clarence Patterson Atkins O. McLaughlin

Edward J. Bello, head fireman at Louisiana Station, retired Sept. 1, 1975, after more than 31 years at the power plant.

A native of Bueche, La., in West Baton Rouge Parish, Bello attended high school in Port Allen. He joined Gulf States in 1944 as an operator's helper in Louisiana Station. Bello was named head fireman in 1958.

He is married to the former Irene North of Monroe. The couple has two children.

A near disaster in the plant is his most memorable moment at Gulf States.

"We were cutting 1A boiler feedwater regulator out of service to repair a leak in the one-inch bypass, when E. Murray Greer and Morris Rabalais closed the valve after the regulator. I was on the six-inch bypass to hold the level in the boiler.

"Those two boys stooped directly over the leak when it suddenly ruptured with 2,200 pounds of water pressure at 360°F. When I first came out, I could not see the boys — but after a minute or two, I saw them come out from the other side of the boiler.

"Believe me, gentlemen, I was a very happy man when I saw they were not hurt. Then I said a silent prayer of thanks.

"And that was the happiest moment of my 31½ years at GSU."



Anders Poulson



Henry Gurie

Anders Poulson, safety representative, will retire March 1 after nearly 48 years with the Company.

A native of Lott, Tex., where he was graduated from high school, Poulson came to Beaumont in 1928 and was hired as an office boy in the accounting department.

He served as messenger boy, PBX operator, cashier and customer accounting clerk before being transferred to the Beaumont T&D department in 1935 as a meter tester. He served briefly in Navasota, returning to Beaumont for three years before being promoted to meterman third class in 1941.

Poulson served through four South Pacific invasions during his 34-month tour of duty with the Marine Corps during World War II.

He returned to Beaumont and was promoted to safety representative in 1947. Responsibility for safety was transferred from the T&D department to the personnel department in 1955.

He is married to the former Muriel Lampkin of Orange, Tex. The couple has one daughter and two grandchildren.

Poulson is past president of the fellowship class and Methodist Men at First United Methodist Church in Beaumont. He also served as counselor for the Boy Scouts.

Poulson's most memorable event while at Gulf States was when the system achieved nearly eight million man-hours of work without a disabling injury — a national record that still stands.

He plans to golf, fish and hunt during his leisure time.

Henry Gurie, mechanic's helper at Nelson Station, retired Aug. 1, 1975, after 28 years' service to the Company.

A native of Monroe, Gurie was hired as a laborer at the old Lake Charles Riverside Station in 1947. He became a laborer II at Nelson Station in 1965 and a mechanic's helper in 1974.



Killdeer Nest on Navasota Roof

Nesting on the gravel roof of the Western Division garage in Navasota are several families of Killdeer (*Charadrius vociferous*), a thin-legged, striped plover common throughout the Gulf Coast area and noted for its shrill cries resembling its name.

Adults clear out a shallow nest on the roof, about 20 feet off the ground. White

stones are often selected and placed around at the nest site. The concentration of white is often the only indicator of the nest's presence, since the speckled killdeer eggs appear to blend in with the mottled color of the roof.

After hatching, young killdeer face a peculiar problem on the garage roof — deadly downspouts. The young are able to run swiftly before they fly and — not knowing their nest is above ground — can run into the gutters and fall down the downspouts, which is a fatal maneuver.

So the little ones get an assist from a Gulf States bucket truck.

"We get on the roof, gather up all the young (left), put them into the bucket, throw a cloth over them and bring them down to the ground," said mechanic Dick Knight (right). "Their parents are waiting on the ground for us to release them."

"We know when the young are ready when the parents walk around the garage area as if they are wounded or crippled," Knight said. Such tactics are typical of a protective adult killdeer near the nest.



DEATHS



George R. Fulton



Hewitt P. Robichau

George R. Fulton, 79, retired executive vice president and director died July 19, 1975 at St. Elizabeth Hospital after heart failure.

A native of Chester, Pa., Fulton was graduated from the Williamson Free School of Mechanical Trades in Media, Pa., and joined Savannah Electric Co. in 1916. During World War I he served two years as a first lieutenant in the U.S. Army Coast Artillery Corps. Prior to joining Gulf States in 1931, Fulton worked for the Baton Rouge Electric Co., the Galveston-Houston Electric Railway Co., Stone & Webster Engineering Corp. and Virginia Electric and Power Co.

His first position in Beaumont was superintendent of production. In 1942, he was transferred to Lake Charles and promoted to vice president in charge of that division. Fulton moved back to Beaumont in 1956 as vice president in charge of Texas operations and was also elected a director of the Company. Later that year he was named executive vice president.

Fulton attended the Harvard University Graduate School of Business Administration and was active in civic and social affairs in both Lake Charles and Beaumont.

He is survived by his wife, Marion Pinchback Fulton of Beaumont; two children, George Fulton Jr. of Beaumont and Mrs. James P. Towers — wife of the assistant to the vice president in Baton Rouge — of Baton Rouge; and two grandchildren.

Hewitt P. Robichau Sr., 75, retired administrative accountant, died at St. Elizabeth Hospital Aug. 24, 1975, after a stroke.

A native of White Castle, La., Robichau lived in Beaumont 69 years. He joined the Company in 1925 as a ledger clerk in the treasury department. He progressed to chief clerk in two years. Robichau was named supervisor of billing

in 1956 and supervisor of system billing records in 1960. In 1964 Robichau was given special assignments as an administrative accountant. He retired in 1965.

Robichau was an accomplished baseball player and coach. He played on the first semi-pro team the Eastern Texas Electric Co. — a Gulf States precursor — sponsored in 1926. He played through the 1930s and later coached Little League and Pony League teams.

He was also noted for his woodworking skills and magnificent shop.

He was active in the Young Men's Business League, the Beaumont Chamber of Commerce, the Business and Professional Men's Club and the Knights of Columbus.

Robichau is survived by his wife of 54 years, Lillian Robichau; three sons, H. P. Robichau Jr., Frank J. Robichau and Joe O. Robichau, manager of information and data services, all of Beaumont; three daughters, Mrs. James F. Hogan of Tulsa, Okla., Mrs. John Neil and Mrs. Franklin Williamson, both of Beaumont; two sisters, Bessie Robichau and Ethel L. Thompson, both of Beaumont; 21 grandchildren and one great-grandson.

Paul A. Baker, 66, retired senior commercial sales representative in Port Arthur, died of heart disease Sept. 17, 1975, in Park Place Hospital.

The Groveton, Tex., native joined Gulf States in 1940 as a floor salesman in the Port Arthur office. After a tour of duty in the U. S. Air Force during World War II, Baker was named residential sales representative. He was made a commercial sales representative in 1947 and attained senior status two years later.

Baker retired in 1968.

He had attended Texas A&M University and Stephen F. Austin College.

Survivors include his wife, Lurlene Baker; two sisters, Helen Read and Mrs. Lloyd Markham, both of Silsbee; and two brothers, Ray Baker of Woodville and Joe B. Baker of Port Neches.

Eliza H. Bryan, 77, a retired clerk with



Eliza H. Bryan



George N. Rice Jr.

31 years' service to Gulf States, died May 20 in St. Elizabeth Hospital in Beaumont of heart failure stemming from arteriosclerosis and cancer.

A native of Owensboro, Ky., Miss Bryan attended high school in Indianapolis and was graduated from Indiana University in 1917.

She was first employed at Gulf States in 1927 as a clerk in the construction department. Two years later she became a merchandise stock clerk. Miss Bryan was named payroll clerk in 1933 and became confidential payroll records clerk in 1941. She retired in 1958.

She is survived by two nephews, Wallace B. and Tom B. Livesay, both of Beaumont.

George N. Rice Jr., 55, administrative assistant in plant accounting, died of cancer June 7 at St. Elizabeth Hospital.

A native of Beaumont, Rice was a graduate of French High School and joined Gulf States in 1937 as a bill deliverer. He worked in various clerical positions until 1949, when he was named junior accountant in plant accounting. He was promoted to accountant in 1950 and to administrative assistant in 1960.

He is survived by his wife, Dorothy; one son, Ronald Wayne Rice; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George N. Rice Sr.; one brother, Jack M. Rice, all of Beaumont; and one sister, Paula Joyce Hamner of Nederland.

Edgar R. Kent, 80, retired foreman in the Baton Rouge gas department, died at his home Dec. 9, 1975, from the effects of several ailments.

A native of Pride, La., Kent was hired by Gulf States as a helper in the gas department in 1935. He became foreman two years later.

He is an Army veteran of World War I.

He is survived by his wife, Sadie Olivier Kent; one daughter, Hazel Davis; three grandchildren and a great-grandson, all of Baton Rouge.



Paul A. Baker



Edgar R. Kent



Isidore Guerin Jr.

Junious L. Vital

Isidore Guerin Jr., 48, labor foreman in Baton Rouge, died July 28, 1975, after a heart attack at his home in Livonia.

A native of Valverde, La., Guerin was a graduate of Livonia High School. He hired on with Gulf States as a helper in the Baton Rouge T&D department in 1948. Two years later he was made a patrolman in the right-of-way maintenance section. Guerin was promoted to labor foreman in Maringouin in 1968 and transferred to Baton Rouge in 1972.

He is survived by his wife, Murlene Guerin, of Livonia; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Isidore Guerin Sr.; one son, Rodney Guerin, living in South Carolina; one daughter, Naomi Guerin of Baton Rouge; two sisters, Juanita Chustz of Erwinville, La., and Jeanette Price of Baton Rouge; his grandmother, Augusta Labat of Valverde and one granddaughter.

Junious L. Vital, 58, retired porter in the Orange storeroom, died of cirrhosis of the liver Dec. 23, 1975, in Orange Memorial Hospital.

A native of New Iberia, La., Vital joined Gulf States in 1946 as a laborer in the water department in Orange. He was transferred to the storeroom as porter in 1952 and retired Dec. 1, 1975.

He is survived by his wife, Clara Vital; three daughters, Delores Hicks, Joann Hunt and Gloria Mae Sweet; four sons, Junious Vital Jr., Joseph Vital, Warren Vital and Ray Vital, all of Orange; one sister, Helen Dolfen, and one brother, Robert Vital, both of New Iberia.



Morris J. Cunningham

Talmage E. Hensley, 73, retired master repairman at Neches Station, died Sept. 3, 1975, of leukemia at Baptist Hospital.

A native of Talpa, Tex., Hensley was hired in 1925 as chief engineer at the Somerville power plant operated by Western Public Service Co. He was assigned to the Hempstead, Liberty and Jasper power plants before being transferred to Neches Station as repairman first class in 1942. He was promoted to master repairman in 1957 and retired in 1966.

Survivors include his wife, Ethel Hensley of Beaumont; and one daughter, Ruth Smith of Houston.



Talmage E. Hensley

Guy G. Settoon

Guy G. Settoon, 69, retired serviceman in Sulphur, died Sept. 29, 1975, in the American Legion Hospital in Jennings after a stroke.

A native of Ponchatoula, La., Settoon joined Gulf States in 1935 as a lineman in Lafayette. He became the Sulphur serviceman in 1947 and retired in 1968.

He also served as the building, electrical and plumbing inspector for the City of Sulphur for a number of years.

He is survived by his wife, Lillian Settoon; two sons, C. B. "Boo" Settoon of Sulphur and Aubrey Wiltz Settoon of Alvin, Tex.; two sisters, Mrs. Alvin Perilloux and Mrs. Alvin Peters, both of Ponchatoula; and four grandchildren.

Morris J. Cunningham, 75, retired appliance repair foreman in Baton Rouge, died Sept. 5, 1975, in Baton Rouge General Hospital following a heart attack.

A native of Houma, La., Cunningham joined Gulf States as a T&D serviceman in Baton Rouge in 1937. He served as district representative and commercial salesman before being named appliance repairman first class in 1942. Cunningham was promoted to foreman in 1947 and retired in 1963.

He is survived by his wife, Nella "Ned" Cunningham of Baton Rouge; and two brothers, Armand J. Cunningham and Noland Cunningham, both of Houma.



Will Green

Joe L. Clement

Will Green, 86, retired special laborer at Neches Station, died Aug. 31, 1975, at the Winnie (Tex.) Medical Center of heart disease.

At the time of his death, Green was the third oldest living retiree from Gulf States, following Mabel Johnson and Pat Connelly.

A native of Whiteville, La., Green lived in Beaumont for 70 years. He was hired by Gulf States in 1925 as laborer at the new power plant under construction — Neches Station. He was promoted to special laborer in 1952 and retired in 1956.

Survivors include his wife, Irene Green of Beaumont; two sisters, Annis Brown and Carrie Green, both of Whiteville; and two brothers, Arthur Green of Beaumont and Gustus Green of Washington, La.

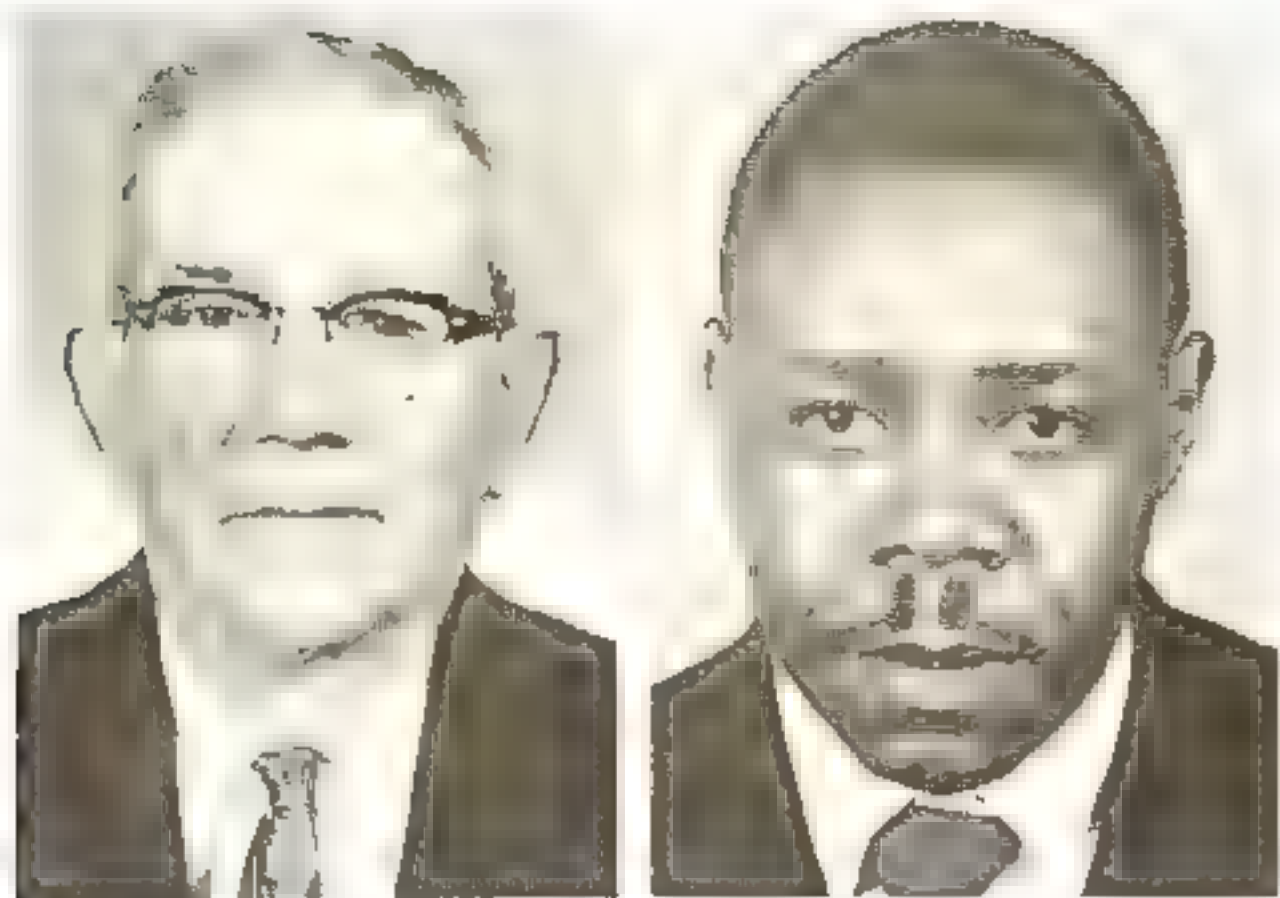
Joe L. Clement, 56, senior commercial sales representative in Baton Rouge, died of a brain tumor Oct. 4, 1975, at his home in Denham Springs.

A native of Denham Springs, Clement joined Gulf States in 1941 as a helper in the Baton Rouge T&D department. He joined the U. S. Army the day after Pearl Harbor and served in the U. S. Army during World War II.

He was reinstated as an apprentice in Denham Springs when he returned and was promoted to district serviceman fourth class 14 weeks later. Clement was promoted to district serviceman first class in Gonzales in 1949. He became senior residential sales representative in Port Allen in 1953. Two years later he was named senior commercial sales representative and transferred back to Baton Rouge.

He is a graduate of Denham Springs High School and attended Baton Rouge Business College.

Clement is survived by his wife, Dolores Clement of Denham Springs; one daughter, Mrs. Billie Joe Parker of Shreveport; one son, Charles "Chuck" Clement; three sisters, Marie Fletcher, Rosie Harris, Audrie LeBlanc; one brother, Harlan Clement, all of Denham Springs; and two grandchildren.



Ulyses P. Hicks

Herman Dotson

Ulyses P. Hicks, 72, retired Baton Rouge line foreman, died of cancer Dec. 15, 1975, in Our Lady of the Lake Hospital.

A native of White Castle, La., Hicks joined the Baton Rouge Electric Co. in 1923 as a goundman in the T&D department. He progressed to lineman foreman in 1939 and line foreman a year later. He served in that capacity for 28 years until he retired.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Gore Hicks; one daughter, Marie Taylor, both of Slaughter; two sisters, Mrs. E. A. Thompson and Mrs. C. J. LeGrange Sr., both of Baton Rouge; and two grandchildren.

Herman Dotson, 49, retired laborer at Louisiana Station, died June 4, 1975, after a heart attack at his home.

A native of East Baton Rouge Parish, Dotson was employed by Gulf States in 1944 and served in the U. S. Army from Feb., 1945, until Aug., 1946. He worked as a laborer at Louisiana Station until he retired in March, 1974.

Dotson is survived by his wife, Inez Dotson; father, William Dotson; three sons, Herman Dotson Jr., Arnold Dotson and James Dotson; five daughters, Carrie Handy, Joyce Briggs, Sheila Young, Janice Dotson and Connie Dotson; and one brother, Clarence Dotson, all of Baton Rouge.

Larry E. Tucker, 31, senior draftsman in system engineering, died Sept. 27, 1975, of injuries received in a one-car automobile accident in Beaumont.

A Beaumont native, Tucker was graduated from Beaumont High School in 1964 and served four years in the U. S. Air Force. He was hired by Gulf States as an engineering helper in the T&D department in 1969. Tucker was promoted to engineering assistant in 1970. He transferred to system engineering as a draftsman in 1974 and was promoted to senior draftsman one year later.

He is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest T. Tucker of Jasper; one brother, Gerald W. Tucker of Arlington; and one sister, Wanda Tucker of Silsbee.

Fred E. Seyforth, 77, retired garage mechanic first class in Beaumont, died of cancer July 14, 1975, at Schlesinger's Geriatric Center in Beaumont.

A native of Oneida, N. Y., Seyforth attended high school in Utica, N. Y., and served in the U. S. Army in 1918 to 1919.

He was hired by Gulf States in 1926 as an electrician in Beaumont. He was transferred to the garage as a mechanic's helper in 1933 and progressed to first class rating in 1945. He retired in 1963.



Fred E. Seyforth

Alan D. Shafer

Alan D. Shafer, lineman first class in Beaumont, died July 6, 1975, at St. Elizabeth Hospital, from injuries received June 2 in an accident near Daisetta, Tex.

Shafer was helping install a 7,620-volt to 2,400-volt step down transformer bank when one of the units exploded, dousing him with flaming oil.

A native of Burnet, Tex., Shafer had lived in Beaumont 12 years. He was a Vietnam veteran.

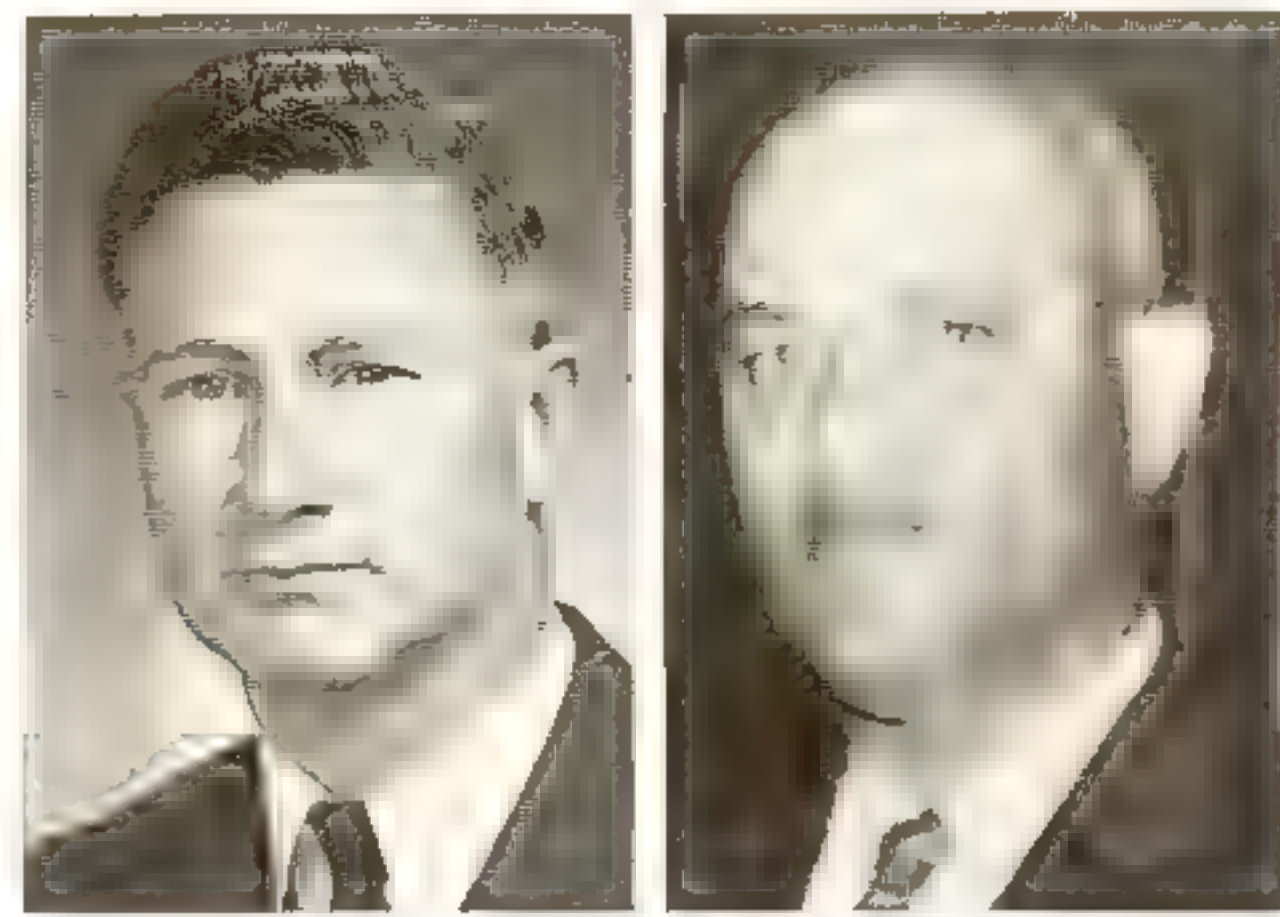
Shafer was hired by Gulf States in 1969 as a helper in the Beaumont T&D department. He made lineman first class in Feb., 1975.

He is survived by his wife, Katherine Shafer; one daughter, Michelle Lynn Shafer, both of Beaumont; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Adrian Shafer of Houston; and two brothers, George E. Shafer of Houston and Clifford L. Shafer of Tulsa.

Sherman Dieson, 76, retired laborer in the Lake Charles T&D substation department, died of heart disease August 17, 1975, at the Green Acres Nursing Home.

A native of Sycamore Point, La., Dieson joined Gulf States in 1928 in the same position he retired in 40 years later. In those days, Dieson had said, mules were used for transportaiton as trucks are today.

Survivors include his wife, Merlene Dieson of Lake Charles; and one sister, Adline Phillips of New Orleans.



Joe L. Kelly

Alvin Jones

Joe L. Kelly, 50, meterman first class in Port Arthur, died in St. Mary's Hospital Aug. 7, 1975, following a stroke.

A native of DeQuincy, La., Kelly was a graduate of Noble (La.) High School and veteran of the U. S. Navy during World War II before joining Gulf States in 1946 as a meterman's helper in Port Arthur. He was promoted to meterman first class in 1953.

Kelly is survived by his wife, Jean Kelly; three sons, Larry Kelly, Dwayne Kelly and Gary Kelly, all of Port Arthur; one brother, Earl Kelly of Groves; one sister, Audrey Lanclos of Port Arthur; his father, R. L. Kelly of Noble; and his mother, Jeannette Flanagan of Port Arthur.

Alvin Jones, 63, retired storeroom porter in Beaumont, died Nov. 24, 1975, at St. Elizabeth Hospital following a heart attack.

Jones was a native of Brenham, Tex., and joined Gulf States in 1945 as store-room porter. He retired in 1962 after suffering a stroke.

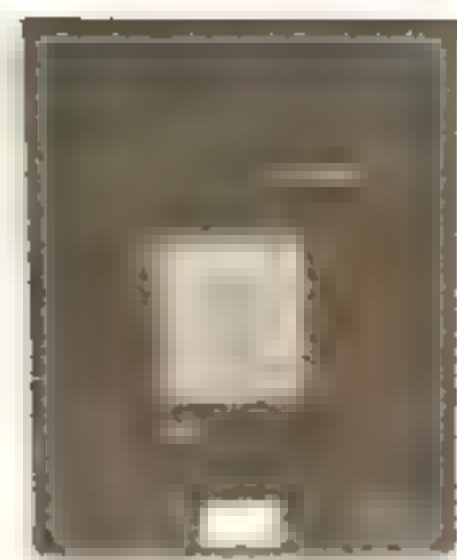
He was a member of Liveoak Missionary Baptist Church and the Masonic Lodge Pride of Beaumont No. 291.

Jones is survived by his wife, Maxine Jones of Beaumont, retired maid at the Gulf States Main Office; one daughter, Frances Wright of Dallas; one sister, Leola Watkins, one brother, Jack Henderson, both of Houston; and three grandchildren.



Sherman Dieson

The Calculator Conflict



If you can't teach an old dog new tricks voluntarily — try some not-so-subtle persuasion.

So it went for Jim Braswell, controller, in the now-famed calculator conflict last June.

He didn't want to part with his 30-year-old "crankalator" adding machine. But his boss, Tom Page, insisted that "either you or the machine goes."

The final confrontation came in Braswell's office with an audience of many accountants. Page maneuvered Braswell into the crowded office, told him he'd better sit down ("I don't know if you can stand the shock.") and began a long-winded speech.

"If you're going to fire me, you don't have to have everybody here," Braswell interrupted.

Finally, Page revealed the surprise — Braswell's crankalator had been mounted,

its crank immobilized, as a wall plaque. Braswell was presented with a new electronic calculator — the "security blanket" is now on his wall.

Forging into the electronic age is quite a step for Braswell, who remembered the days he wasn't allowed to use any type of calculator.

"I had to do it by hand," he said of his early years in accounting.

But nowadays, younger accountants are not familiar with the mechanical machines; and Page wanted the department to have electronic calculators. The new ones are faster, less prone to breakdown and simpler to operate, some say.

Braswell doesn't agree.

"I haven't been able to figure how to make the damn thing work," he said shortly after the presentation. He was quizzically thumbing through the instruction booklet.



SWEET SUSIE — Susie Stuart, executive secretary in power plant engineering and design, holds a cake-and-icing rose as if it were a corsage at one of her several retirement parties. She officially retired July 1. She was noted for her cloth flowers she sold around the office.



BIG BASS — Cary Andre, 9-year-old son of Eugene Andre, head fireman at Louisiana Station, caught this picture book 4-pound bass May 14 while fishing at South Ramah. (from Marilyn Nicholson)



CRYER BRIDE — Alice Jean Adams, daughter of A. A. "Johnny" Adams, retired Jennings T&D line foreman, was married to Gary Cryer April 5 in Jennings. The bride studies music education at McNeese State University. The groom is from Moss Bluff and is majoring in chemical engineering at McNeese. (from Earl Mayfield)

SERVICE AWARDS



Floyd R. Smith
Executive
Beaumont



Gerald P. Handley
Electric T&D
Lake Charles



Sammie R. Bono
Electric T&D
Lake Charles

40 Years



James M. Geen
Engineering Design
Beaumont



Naomi W. Haynes
System Production
Beaumont



Austin J. Mary
Executive-Admin. Staff
Beaumont

JUNE
&
JULY

Dallas L. David
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge

Clarence M. Bailey Jr.
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge



30 Years

Bernard Wiltz
Electric T&D
Lafayette

Roy N. Beatty
Division Production
Baton Rouge

Anderson J. Andrus
Electric T&D
Lake Charles

Albert J. Reaux
Division Production
Beaumont

Doris S. Flowers
System Treasury
Beaumont



Roland J. Jarreau Jr.
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge

AUGUST

H. R. Hamm
Electric T&D
Beaumont

James Odelle Coplen
Electric T&D
Port Arthur

H. E. Miller
Electric T&D
Beaumont

John R. Flynt
Electric T&D
Huntsville



Otto H. Norton
Electric T&D
Port Allen

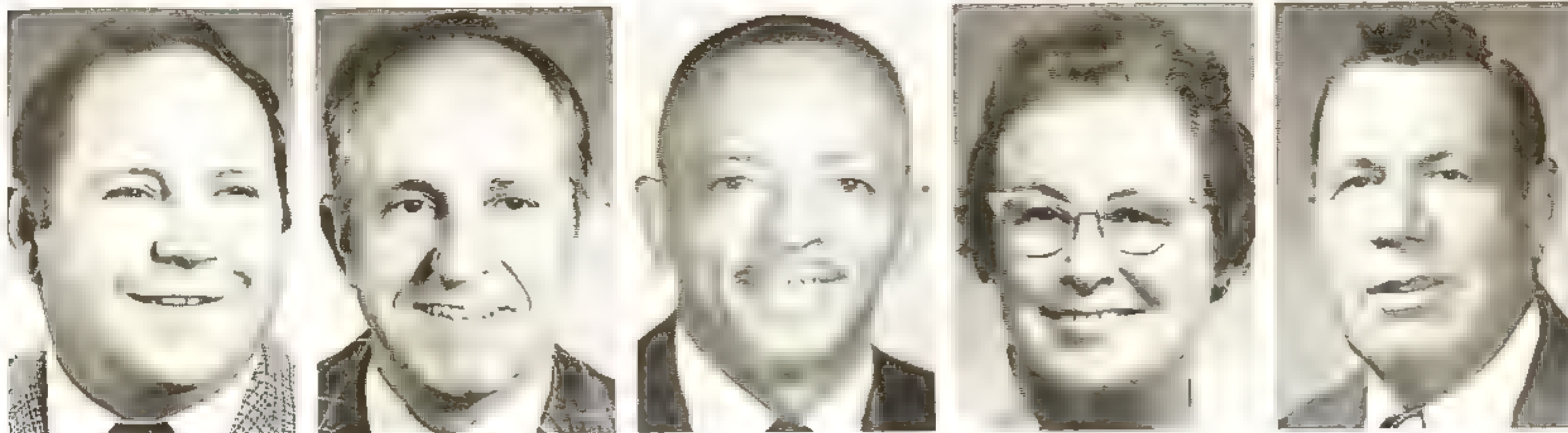
Ray H. Knapp
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge

John L. Phillips
Gas
Baton Rouge

Gordon L. Hatchell
Electric T&D
Denham Springs

Leon G. Gaspard
Electric T&D
Beaumont





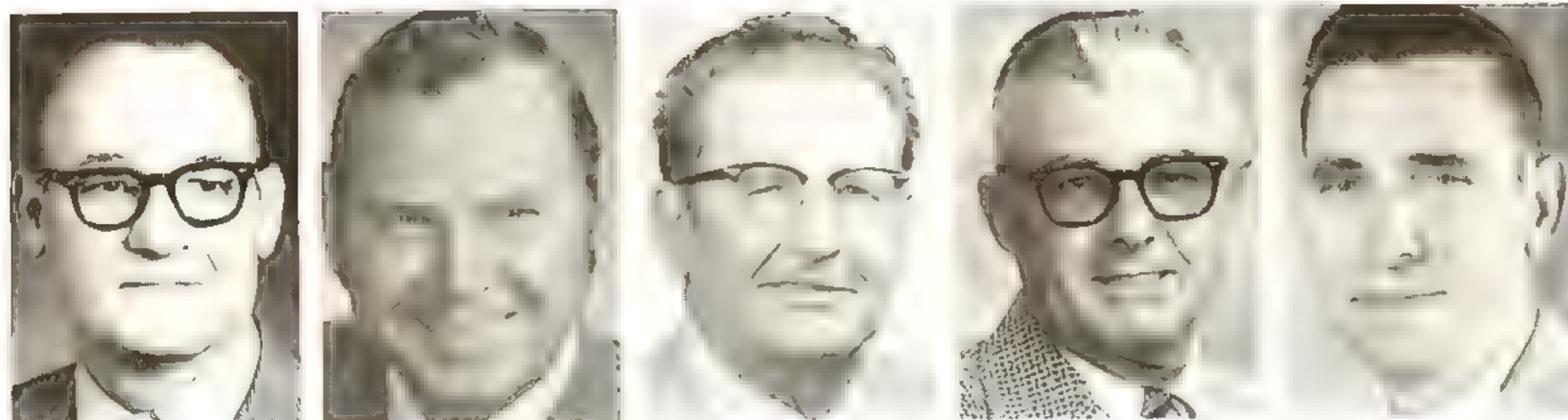
Walter W. Jones
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge
SEPTEMBER

Boyd S. Eisworth
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge

Leroy J. Lewis
Division Treasury
Beaumont

Melba N. Magee
Information and
Data Services
Beaumont

James H. Sanders
Electric T&D
Beaumont



Mike J. Edwards
Division Production
Baton Rouge

F. W. Fahrenthold
Electric T&D
Beaumont

Oray Hernandez
Electric T&D
Abbeville

Herman Oneil Breaux
Electric T&D
Sulphur

Clarence C. Shaffer
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge



M. C. McCormick Jr.
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge

John T. Williams
Electric T&D
Beaumont

John W. Dodd
Electric T&D
Lake Charles

OCTOBER

F. L. Kirkpatrick
Electric T&D
Beaumont

Geraldine Wykoff
Electric T&D
Beaumont



Eldon E. Atkinson
Division Production
Baton Rouge

Johnny L. Osburn
Electric T&D
Beaumont

Daniel A. Rose
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge

Albert J. Hamilton Jr.
Electric T&D
Beaumont

Charles N. Schlatre
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge

Roy L. Jowers
Electric T&D
Beaumont

NOVEMBER

Hubert J. Landry
Electric T&D
Lake Charles

Houston J. LeBlue
Electric T&D
Lake Charles

Alfred Boswell
Electric T&D
Beaumont

Joseph L. Mayeux
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge



George W. Parton
Electric T&D
Lafayette

Emery J. Fruge
Electric T&D
Lake Charles

C. L. Fruge
Division Treasury
Port Arthur

Eli Benoit
Division Treasury
Lake Charles

Scofield C. Davis
Division Production
Baton Rouge



Wilfred L. Broussard
Electric T&D
Jennings

Dan J. Goodman
Electric T&D
Conroe

DECEMBER

Joseph Blakes
Gas
Baton Rouge

Alfred Joseph
Electric T&D
Beaumont

Irvin D. Lafour Jr.
Electric T&D
Dayton



Samuel D. Wells Jr.
Division Treasury
Cleveland

S. H. Canfield
Electric T&D
Beaumont

Joe E. Savoy
Electric T&D
Beaumont

Joseph Goffney Jr.
Division Production
Beaumont

Alvin L. Bowen
System Production
Beaumont



JANUARY



Henry O. Jenkins
Division Production
Baton Rouge

Amos Chambers Jr.
Division Production
Port Arthur

Lucien J. Lesage
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge

Reba A. Willey
Division Marketing
Orange

Julius R. Poole
Electric T&D
Port Arthur



J. D. Wilson
Division Production
Beaumont

W. J. Schumacher
System Production
Beaumont

J. W. Flanigan Jr.
Systems Operations
Beaumont

Marvin E. Kelley
Division Operation
Anahyac

FEBRUARY

J. M. Wells Jr.
Division Operation
Beaumont



Henry T. Buckalew
Division Treasury
Lafayette

Albert J. Weimer
Gas
Baton Rouge

John O. McCune Jr.
Division Marketing
Orange

Paul D. Dugas
Electric T&D
New Iberia

John D. Boykin
Engineering Real Estate
Beaumont



Walter B. McMorris
Division Operation
Zachary

John C. Derouselle
Division Treasury
Lafayette

Philip E. Levert
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge

Joseph C. Pizzuto
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge

Charles W. Cabaniss
Gas
Baton Rouge

20 Years

JUNE & JULY

Hubert J. Broussard
Division Production
Lake Charles

George Barber
Gas
Baton Rouge

Charles R. Lopez
Power Plant
Engineering & Design
Beaumont

Robert W. Jackson
Corporate-Finance
Beaumont

Shirley R. Robinson
Electric T&D
Lake Charles



Walter K. Cooley
Division Marketing
Anahuac

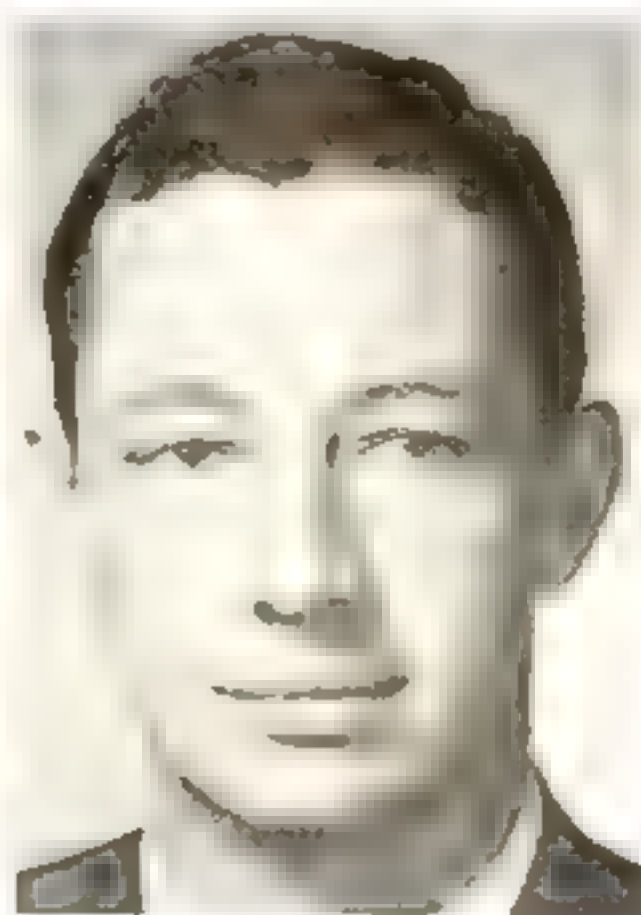
AUGUST

Pearl W. Burnett
Division Treasury
Sulphur

Carroll C. Henry
Systems Operations
Beaumont

G. W. Henderson Jr.
Electric T&D
Denham Springs

John L. Kirkwood
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge



Alvin L. Dragg
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge

Virginia C. Welsh
Personnel
Beaumont

Maria H. Strybos
Information and
Data Services
Beaumont

John R. Bordelon
Division Marketing
Jennings

SEPTEMBER

Joseph L. Menena
Electric T&D
Lake Charles





Denis Dugas Jr.
Electric T&D
Lafayette

Sherman R. Powell
Electric T&D
Beaumont

Joseph S. Guercio Jr.
Division Production
Baton Rouge

Joseph F. Chaney
Electric T&D
Beaumont

Archie L. McClure
Division Production
Baton Rouge



Harrison J. Carlin
Electric T&D
Lafayette

Olen R. Jones
Division Treasury
Beaumont

OCTOBER

Alvin J. Phillips
Electric T&D
Beaumont

Jack A. Sirman
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge

NOVEMBER

Seigle E. Hunstock
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge



Edward E. Cryer
Electric T&D
Lake Charles

DECEMBER

Gordon O. Doss
Electric T&D
Beaumont

Carrol R. Wilson
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge

JANUARY

Edward D. Barnes
Electric T&D
Sulphur

Jasper F. Worthy
Executive
Baton Rouge



FEBRUARY

Bettie N. Smith
Division Treasury
Baton Rouge

Grady C. Caldwell Jr.
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge

Wanda R. Douglas
System Treasury
Beaumont

Mark W. Kingham
Division Production
Lake Charles

10 Years

JUNE & JULY

Bennie Sue Williams
Division Marketing
Port Arthur

Stella L. Meza
System Treasury
Beaumont

Warren J. Anselmo
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge



AUGUST

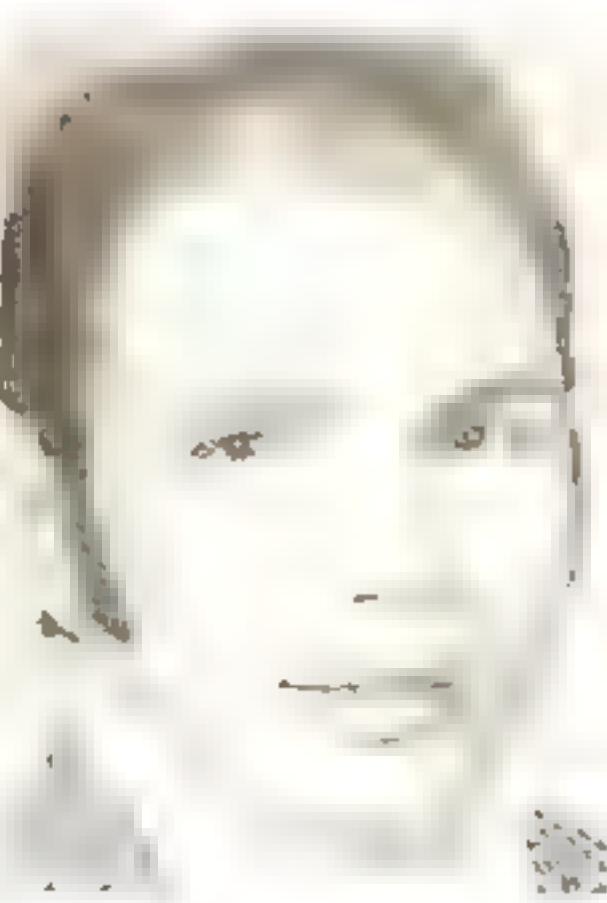
Loretta M. Gilbert
Division Treasury
Jennings

Thorese L. (Casey) Richert
Electric T&D
Jennings

Rodney J. Tompkins
Electric T&D
Port Arthur

Clovis E. Harris
Division Production
Port Arthur

Dolores T. Douglas
Division Treasury
Port Arthur



SEPTEMBER

William E. Harrington
Division Marketing
Lake Charles

OCTOBER

Louis A. Chavis
Electric T&D
Jennings

NOVEMBER

Louis R. Cooper
Division Production
Lake Charles

JANUARY

Joseph D. Dobbs
System Treasury
Beaumont

Joseph L. Victorian
Engineering Design
Beaumont

Philip Broussard
Electric T&D
Beaumont

FEBRUARY

Bobby J. Parham
Electric T&D
Beaumont



COFFEE CUP

LaFosse Pas De Deux

When one of Harold LaFosse's sons asks a girl to dance, she's in for a treat.

Both Robby, 16, and Edmund, 23, are accomplished ballet stars. The pair performed at the same recital June 4-5 in Beaumont for their local teacher, Marsha Woody.

Edmund danced the Grand Pas De Deux from the Nutcracker Ballet, as the featured guest artist. He is currently soloist for the Eliot Field Co. in New York City. He has been a member of the National Ballet of Washington and the Pennsylvania Ballet Co.

Robby, still a student in Miss Woody's dance academy in Beaumont, appeared in many numbers in the biennial recital. His featured solo was the Pas De Deux entitled Museum Artistry.

Both are sons of Harold LaFosse, administrative assistant in the budget department.

Included in the large corps of dancers performing at the recital were the daughters of Bobo Faggard, Charles Glass, Ben Reiser and Ed Wheeler and the niece of Kenneth Knowles. Also appearing were the granddaughters of Cedric Watler and Helen Byrd.

Edmund began taking an interest in dancing at age 11. He had entered competitions in roller skating pairs and had grown discouraged with the amount of work necessary with few resulting bene-



Robby (left) and Edmund LaFosse dance with their ballerinas at the Marsha Woody recital in Beaumont.

fits. When he saw a solicitation from the Woody Academy for applicants for a scholarship for a male dancer, Edmund tried out and won. His first Harkness scholarship came two years later.

Robby is following his older brother's footsteps by accepting a summer scholarship to the Harkness School of Ballet in New York City.

Robby began taking dance at age 9 and has studied with Miss Woody ever



since. He has won numerous scholarships, but the Harkness offer is the first to study in New York City. He turned down a similar offer from the San Francisco School of Ballet to accept the Harkness training.

He has appeared with the Beaumont Civic Ballet for the past three seasons.

Pictured above with Robby is Amy Keith. Dancing with Edmund is Kriss Richmond.

Friends Repaint McClelland's House



Eight friends and former coworkers of Joe McClelland recently pooled their efforts to repaint the retired Beaumont Division sales superintendent's house.

In two days, the men turned the one-story gray frame structure into a fashionable pale gold exterior.

McClelland retired after suffering a stroke in mid-1974. He is making significant recovery and watched with joy as his friends refurbished his home's exterior.

Participating in the project were Glenn Haines, Oscar Baxley, Dude Johnson (left), O. Ray Pace, Bob Collier, Mike Haines and Wayne Sullins and Richard Peterman (both pictured at right).





CANNONS' CATCHES — Ernest Cannon, mechanic first class at Lewis Creek, has really been after those fish held captive in the lake near the power plant. In mid-April, he caught 90 pounds of catfish one night on a trot line (left). James Perry, master mechanic, had to be called in to help hold up the string for the photographer. Then in early May, Cannon brought his six-year-old son, Jeffrey, out to the shore; and the little fella out-fished his papa. The prize haul was the four-pound, 20-inch bass pictured on the right.



FLORIST'S FRIEND — Carolyn Sumrall, credit and collections clerk in Baton Rouge, received this spring bouquet after she saved a florist employe from having his lights cut off. "He said his payday was the next day and he could have the money before 11 a.m.," Mrs. Sumrall said. "He asked me to hold the notice until then. I did and he sent the bouquet with his payment — right on time." (from Jo Anne Parish)



BYE, BYE BUTCH — C. A. "Butch" Ibach, retired director of plant design, got an enthusiastic sendoff Jan. 9 from his many Gulf States friends. Butch and his wife, Lillian, received a smoker/cooker for meat, a watch, a crystal vase and candy dish and a toy St. Bernard dog with a brandy cask full of money. It is named "Little Butch" after the Ibach's real Boston Bull terrier of the same name.

ETY PRODUCTS, INC.

HARD HATS FOR
ALL TYPES OF HEADS—
BIG, BULL, HARD,
FAT, SQUARE,
MEAT, PIN, FLA



MAURICE
TOWNSEND



Babies, babies, babies and still more babies

If the fertility rate in the United States has fallen below the replacement rate, as reported recently, you couldn't tell it from the prolific Gulf States crowd.

Mike Shores' first child, Billy (top left), is said to be ready to accompany his father, an equipment operator at Sabine Station, fishing any day now. Marc Paul Gerald, son of Ronnie Gerald, serviceman first class in Baton Rouge gas department, has a new baby brother — Matthew Lane Gerald (top center). Amanda Kay Curless, daughter of Jon Curless of the budget department in Beaumont, was born last year, joining three-

year-old Jared Todd Curless (top right).

After two weeks in the real world, Dwayne Patrick Lockwood (lower left), son of Ronnie Lockwood, engineering assistant in the Baton Rouge T&D department, doesn't seem too impressed. He's too busy catching those valuable Z's. That's in contrast to Jodi Renee Broussard, daughter of Daryl Broussard (lower right), another T&D engineering assistant in Baton Rouge, who chortled right along as a photographer took this picture. (from Fred Kressman, GERALYN WILLIAMS, JON CURLESS and Debbie Lynn.)





Range Pole -1 Cottonmouth-0

Ray Pharo is a sharpshooter with his range pole.

The Port Arthur senior engineering assistant speared the large cottonmouth pictured at the left.

He was surveying a new line just north of the Sabine-Neches Ship Channel when he noticed the critter coiled, apparently sunning, just off the trail. When Pharo was about five feet away, the reptile raised its head and Pharo instinctively jammed the pole into the snake's mid-section.

The critter was 44 inches long and eight inches in circumference.

"I always carry a range pole just for such encounters," Pharo said.

Only now his pole is bent, such was the power behind the killing blow. (from Loraine Dunham)



BABY AIDES AID AMY — Carolyn S. Amy, customer accounting clerk in Lake Charles, was given a baby shower May 30 just before she took maternity leave. Co-workers donated a variety of baby accessories and enjoyed a cake inscribed: "Hurry Back, Carolyn." The Amys' first child — a daughter, Rachel Nicol — was born Friday, June 13, 1975. A lucky family, no doubt. (from Janet Followay)



MARTIN & MICHOT — Then State Superintendent of Education Louis Michot presents Martin Gauthier, son of Lafayette Senior Engineering Assistant Lester Gauthier, with award noting Martin's election as state president of the Louisiana Youth Safety Council. He has been a member of the Council three years, previously serving as state vice president for traffic safety. He is also vice president of the Beta Club and active in athletics at Maurice High School, where he is a senior.



MOTORCROSS CHAMP — Ralph Babin, son of Johnnie Babin, shop foreman in the Lake Charles garage, has been performing well on area motorcross circuits. Racing in the 250cc and open classes, Babin has won several trophies and was invited to participate in the Nationals last summer — where he finished 25th of 43 entrants. Like his father and grandfather, the younger Babin is a mechanic. He is employed by a local motorcycle shop. He is a 1975 graduate of LaGrange High School. (from Johnnie Stelly)

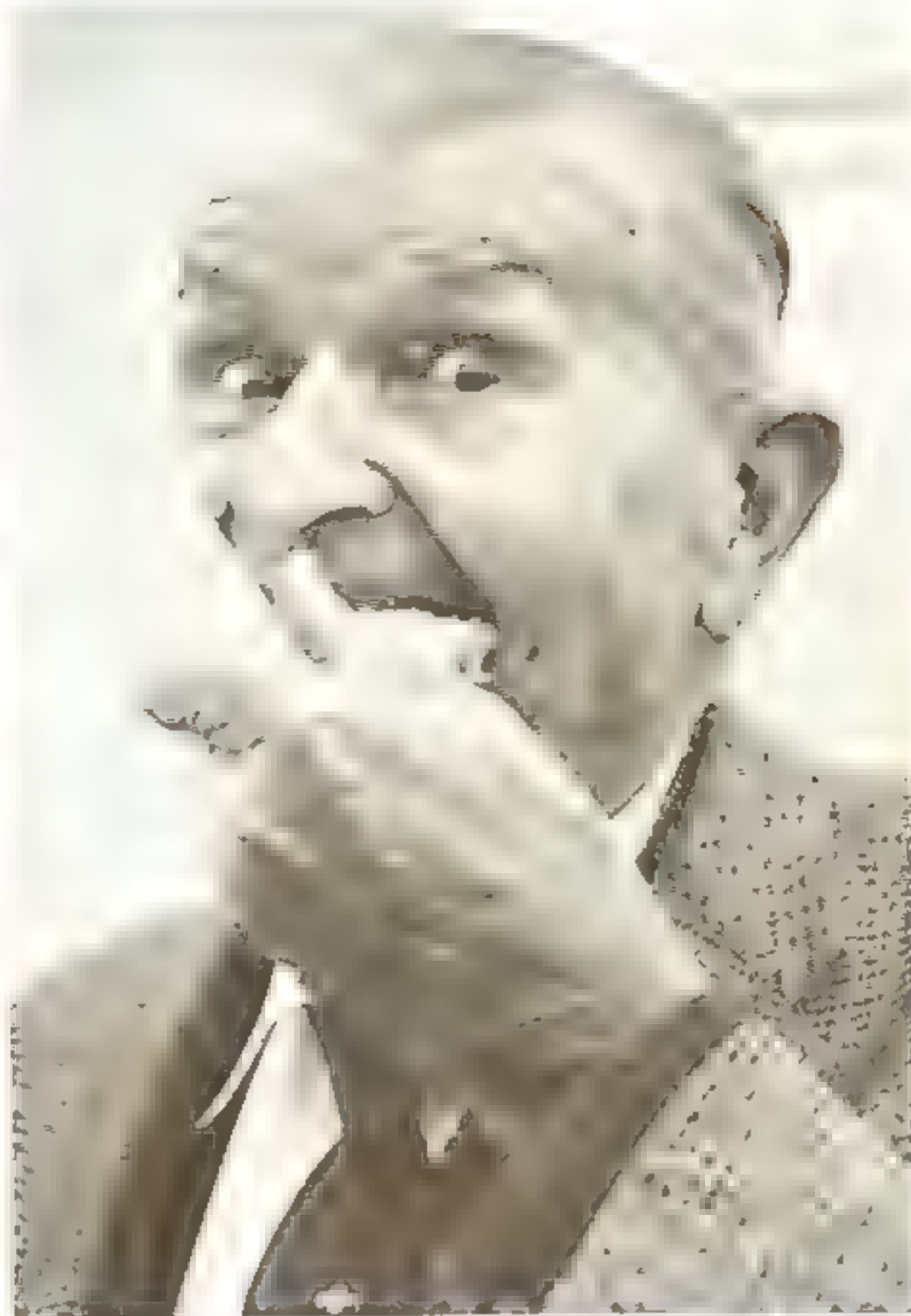




ACTIVE ATKINSON — Cathy Atkinson, daughter of Eddie Atkinson, control operations foreman at Willow Glen, last year was voted Outstanding Junior — and a slew of other honors — by the faculty of Glen Oaks High School. She also received the American History Award given by the Woodsmen of the World Insurance Society, served as editor of "Glen Acorns," was captain of the Junior Quiz Bowl team, served as secretary-treasurer of the Pepsters, placed second in Book-keeping I in the district literary rally and represented Glen Oaks in the Society of Distinguished American High School Students. In her copious free time, she has participated in the National Honor Society, Beta Club, Quill and Scroll, the flag squad and a variety of church activities.



"Mr. Brook will be so happy — I finally oiled that sticking file drawer."



(NEVER) OUTASIGHT OCTOGENARIAN — French S. "Frenchie" Sheffield, retired collector in Beaumont, celebrated his 81st birthday Jan. 22 in familiar surroundings — the customer accounting section of the Main Office. Ever since retiring in 1960, it's a rare day Sheffield doesn't stop by to chat and offer friendly advice. The clerks thoughtfully prepared two cakes for the patriarch. Frenchie's singular advice is to work hard and honestly. "When I left home, I followed the advice of my father: 'Don't stop until you get to a good place. Stay there and work. Don't stop. Work to where they'd hate to see you gone and are glad to have you back,'" Frenchie said. People should also work with a "let-me-do-it attitude, can-I-hep-you, please."



HONOR STUDENT — Joyce Castleberry, daughter of J. R. Peckham Jr., right-of-way man in Beaumont, was honored at her graduation from junior high school. She received the American Legion Award for scholastic excellence and citizenship, was named best eighth-grade girl in physical education and earned placement on the three-year A-B honor roll. (from Carolyn Motl)



GIANT CATFISH — Lloyd Williams, electrical engineering (survey) party chief in Baton Rouge, landed this 15-pound catfish while fishing in Lake Theriot near Houma March 22. The big fish caught a chartreuse spinner bait Williams was using in search of bass. The catch yielded a big filet dinner for four plus leftovers for later meals. (from GERALYN WILLIAMS)



WESTROPE'S RETIREMENT — More than 100 friends attended the retirement party for Harold Westrope, substation mechanic in Lake Charles, May 30. The group feasted on barbecued chicken, sausage, salad, beans, garlic bread, soft drinks and cold beer. Westrope (left) is shown accepting a farewell gift of cash from Howard Mack, operating superintendent.



CLEVELAND CROWD — Workers in the Celveland office crowded around Otis Boles (second from left, standing) to wish him farewell prior to his transfer to New Caney as serviceman. Boles was lineman second class in Cleveland. Joining in the guzzling of refreshments were: (standing) Pat Jones, Boles, Charles Walters, Benny Kite, Davis Moulder, Virginia Martin and Barkley Lilley, and (sitting) Robert Wortham and Doug Wellborn. (from Pat Jones)

Holidays

The Company observes the following holidays in 1976:

New Year's DayThursday, Jan. 1
 Washington's Birthday Monday, Feb. 16
 Good FridayFriday, April 16
 Memorial Day Monday, May 31
 Independence Day Monday, July 5
 Labor DayMonday, Sept. 6
 Thanksgiving DayThursday, Nov. 25
 Christmas Day Friday, Dec. 24
 Employee's Birthday



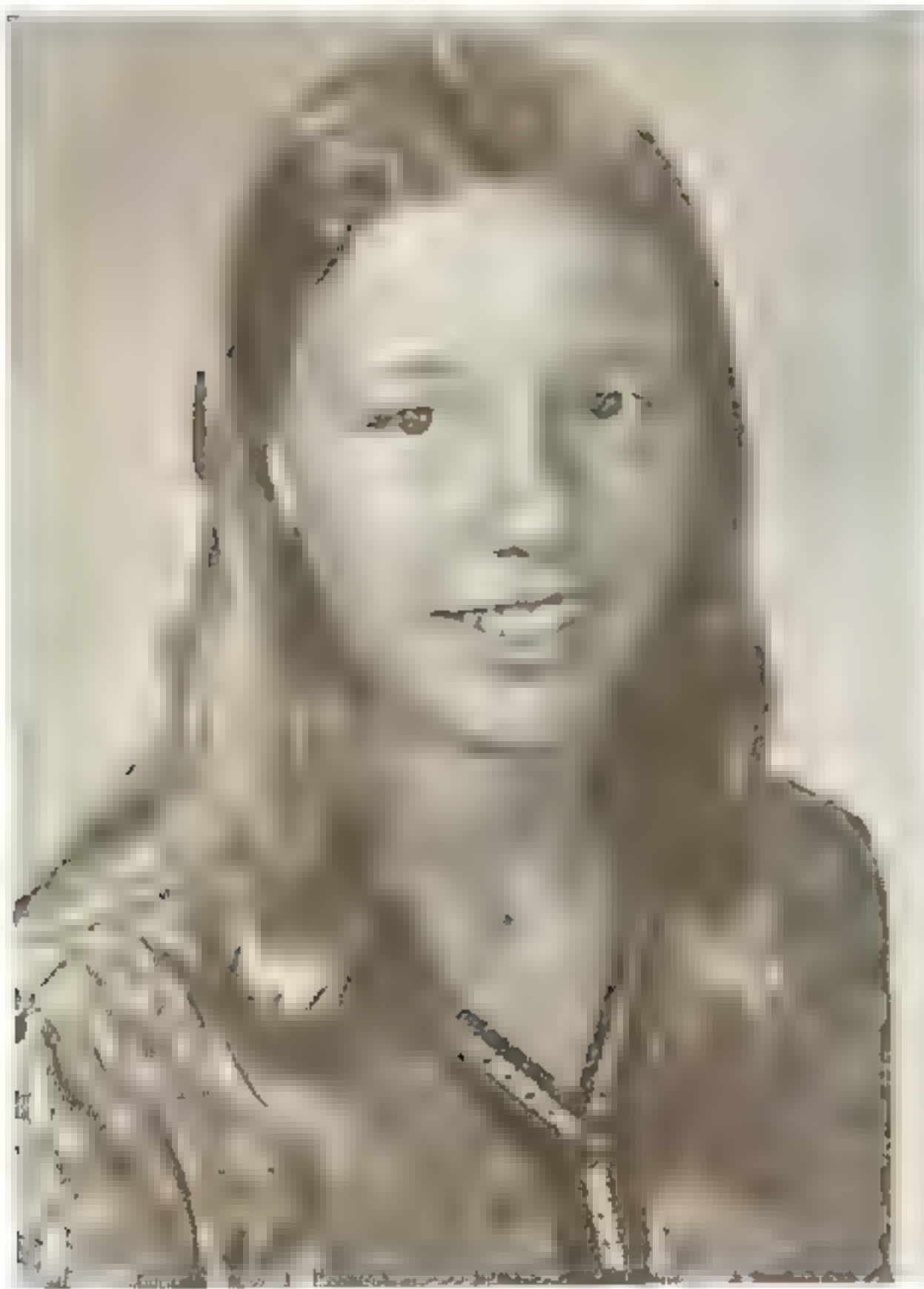
SCHOLAR ATHLETE — Rhonda Cole, daughter of Mel Cole, director of distribution engineering, was valedictorian at French High School and an All-district and All-state selection in volleyball. Miss Cole also received awards from the Daughters of the American Revolution, American Legion, Soroptimist Club, her coaches and the faculty. She is studying medical technology at Lamar University.



STAR GYMNASTS — Dayna Smith, (left) 13-year-old daughter of Derrick Smith, control operations foreman at Nelson Station, is pictured with one of her heroines — Cathy Rigby, the U. S. Olympic gymnastics star. Miss Smith is a gymnastics student at the Lake Charles YMCA. Miss Rigby visited Lake Charles to tape a commercial for United Appeals. (from Martha Caldwell)



SAFE SON — It's never too early to learn proper safety habits. Edward T. Brawner Jr. wore his father's hardhat while in the Lake Charles service center last summer. His father is an engineering assistant. (from Johnnie Stelly)



SEVENTH GRADE STARS — Daughters of two Baton Rouge T&D employees copped honors in seventh grade schoolwork last year. Roxie Bailey (left), daughter of C. M. Bailey Jr., right-of-way man, received certificates of honor in English, math, American history and religion from Redemptorist. She was also elected to the National Junior Beta Club. Valerie Faye Rice, daughter of Georgia Rice, departmental clerk in the T&D engineering department, received a trophy for outstanding work in history at Scotlandville Junior High. She was also named to science and physical education honor rolls. (from Debbie Lynn)



VICKI THE VOLLEYBALLER — Vicki Marshall, daughter of Dude Marshall, senior departmental clerk in the Main Office mail room, is presented a trophy at KFDM-TV for being the outstanding volleyball player in her district. To say the least. Vicki won news service acclaim as an All-district and All-state selection after leading her French High School team to the state championship. She was Most Valuable Player in the championships, and her No. 12 jersey was retired at French. She is now playing at Sam Houston University in Huntsville on a scholarship.



DOUBLE GRADUATIONS — Clifton Etienne, laborer in the Lake Charles store-room, is an experienced graduation goer. Last year two of his children received diplomas. Jackqueline Elaine (left) was graduated from the Sunlight Baptist kindergarten into first grade. Donald Ray was graduated from W. O. Boston High School. He joined the Navy. (from Johnnie Stelly)



"He was very considerate not to have come right out and used your name!"



BAKE-OFF WINNERS — The 1975 Girl Scout Bake-off for Montgomery County was held May 17 at the GSU Auditorium in Conroe. There were 46 entries in two categories: Scratch and Creative Box Cakes. Winners were chosen in four age groups: Brownies, cadettes, juniors and seniors. First-place winners included Kathy Greer (left), Roxanna Mitahan, Gale Helton (daughter of Dispatcher Floyd Helton), Susan Fultz, Cheryl Jennings and Kara Pitchford. (from Carolyn Joyce)



MUSICAL BAPTISTS WED — Phyllis Lynne Norwood, daughter of Sam Norwood, control operations foreman at Sabine Station, wed Steven Lovett May 24 in Orangefield. Both bride and groom are music majors at Lamar University. The bride is also youth director at Wildwood Baptist Church. The groom is music and education director at Kountze First Baptist Church. The couple will reside in Kountze. (from Fred Kressman)



MATHIS RETIRES — Edgar Mathis, superintendent of the Sour Lake District, was feted at the Main Office prior to his retirement June 1. Pictured with the cake depicting a country scene was Mathis, his wife Thelma and his Sour Lake office secretary Helen Cunningham.

Jo Ann Burnett Aids Notary Bill

Jo Ann Burnett, executive secretary in Lake Charles, was instrumental in the passage of a bill through the Louisiana Legislature last summer that expanded the jurisdiction of notary publics in that state.

Miss Burnett felt that the law restricting a notary to practice in only one parish was outdated and discriminatory against

persons — such as herself — who lived in one parish but worked in another. A resident of Beauregard Parish, Miss Burnett travels into Calcasieu Parish to work in the Company's division office.

The bill allows notaries to practice in the parishes in which they work and live. (from Janet Followay)



"...and when I point out dangerous practices, I'm not harassing you."



THOSE BEE-BOPPING BONDURANTS — Few swingers will turn down a party invitation to the Bondurants' new Beaumont home — since his friends in Lake Charles gave him a Wurlitzer juke box as a going away present. A large crowd turned out Jan. 23 at the Cities Service Pecan Grove Park to wish their former division manager well. Butch Franklin arranged for Wayne Fails to pick out a juke box in deference to Bondurant's two teenaged girls. Wurlitzer stopped manufacturing the juke boxes 18 months ago, and they are already collector's items. Bondurant's music maker came loaded with 100 records. Also included in the sendoff was about \$300, which Bondurant plans to use for a citizen band radio setup, and a plaque of appreciation for his membership on the Board of Trustees of the Lake Charles Memorial Hospital. (from Janet Followay)



PLAY BALL — H. W. "Mike" Newman apparently didn't keep his favorite hobby a secret from his former co-workers in Lake Charles. At his farewell party June 13, Newman received a basketball, basketball goal and basketball backboard. The cake, if you haven't already guessed, was decorated like a basketball court. It's rumored Newman likes to dribble. Formerly T&D engineer in Lake Charles, Newman was transferred to the design engineering section of the system engineering design department in Beaumont, where he is designing transmission lines and substations. (from Johnnie Stelly)



YOUNG MARRIED MOVE — Karen and Michael Sirman have moved from Baton Rouge after their graduation from Louisiana State University, leaving two Gulf States families a bit lonelier. Mike is the son of Jack Sirman, supervisor of right-of-way. Karen is the daughter of Clyde Wilson, labor foreman. The couple has moved to Tulsa, Okla. Mike is attending graduate school at Oklahoma State University in nearby Stillwater while Karen, a magna cum laude graduate in mathematics and computer science, will work in the Tulsa headquarters of Standard Oil Co. of Indiana.



HIGH FLYER — Beth Dodge, executive secretary, is noted as a distinguished high flyer, but her friends didn't know how enthusiastic she was until she boarded a helicopter at the Beaumont amusement park this summer. Curse you, Red Baron!



SURPRISE CELEBRATION — Frances Elliot, stores clerk in Conroe (and *Plain Talks* reporter), was surprised and delighted by this rosey — and tasty — gift she received on her birthday last April 15. Presenting the cake are LeRoy Courville (left), storeroom supervisor, and Leo Adams, storekeeper. (from Bobbie Burke)



"MY VERY FIRST TROPHY" — Mary Lou Alberto, departmental clerk in stores and salvage, won only one tennis match out of three, but that was good enough for a second place trophy in the Beaumont Tennis Association consolation bracket last summer. Defeated in the first round, Ms. Alberto moved into the consolation rounds, drew a bye, defeated one opponent 6-1, 6-1 but lost in the finals 1-6, 5-7. "I can't wait until my next tournament," Ms. Alberto said.



KITTY CACTUS — Doris Jimmerson, storeroom assistant in the Beaumont stationery storeroom, has a pet in her office — a cactus plant shaped like a kitty cat. "When I bought it the plant was just the size of a silver dollar and was smooth," Ms. Jimmerson said. "If it keeps on growing the ears will get longer and it will look like a rabbit, I guess." Ever heard of hare-y cactus?



CO-VALEDICTORIAN — Lisa Thibodeaux, daughter of Morris R. Thibodeaux, communications serviceman at the Government St. Service Center in Baton Rouge, tied with two others for valedictorian honors. Each of the trio all registered perfect 4.0 averages at Glen Oaks Senior High School. Lisa reads voraciously, crochets afghans and doilies, enjoys camping and is an accomplished pianist. She is majoring in piano at Centenary College in Shreveport, where she has been awarded a scholarship. (from Linda Allen)



MASTER MOTHER — Barbara Landry, wife of Dick Landry, industrial engineer in Conroe, received her Master of Business Administration degree from Sam Houston State University last August. She wrote her thesis on the role of coal and nuclear energy in this country's electric power production over the next 25 years using, in part, records from the Company. She teaches in the business department of Conroe High School. The Landrys are pictured with their two children, Diana and Kyle.



FAIR COOKS — Marissa (left) and Karen Fowler, daughters of Butch Fowler, test technician at Lewis Creek, won cooking awards in last year's Montgomery County 4-H and Future Homemakers of America county fair. Marissa won Reserve Grand champion in the creative cake division, selling her concoction for \$250 at the auction. She also took several other first and second places. Karen won first place in the cookie division and placed in a few other categories. (from D. W. Rutherford)



BEST-DRESSED DOLL — Theresa Ann Coleman, daughter of Charles Coleman, serviceman first class in Jackson, La., has been named Best Dressed and Most Outstanding Coed at the University of South-eastern Louisiana at Hammond. The sophomore sociology major has also distinguished herself in drama and music. (from Jo Anne Parish)



TINY TINA — Tina Marie Gremillion, eight-week-old daughter of R. J. Gremillion, turbine engineer at Louisiana Station, posed for this picture taken by her father. The blue-eyed blond is growing feverishly, now tipping the scales at slightly more than 12 pounds. (from Marilyn Nicholson)



SCHOLARSHIP WINNER — Mitzi DesSelles, daughter of Hubert J. DesSelles, master repairman at Willow Glen, was named the only Baton Rouge recipient of a four-year, \$4,000 scholarship to the University of Southwestern Louisiana in Lafayette. One of only 20 students selected for the award, Miss DesSelles entered USL as a sophomore because she had completed freshman level work at Louisiana State University while still enrolled at Tara High School. She plans to major in pre-medical studies. Among her many honors are a service award for work with the medically-oriented Explorer Post 81, a 250-hour service award for hospital work with the American Red Cross Youth and a letter of commendation from the National Merit Scholarship program. Her biography is published in Who's Who Among American High School Students, 1974-75. Miss DesSelles' hobbies include tennis, the fine arts and needlework.



QUACK, QUACK — Persons hearing obscene noises in or near Louisiana Station should be aware that Pat Bourne, general maintenance supervisor, was given a camouflage suit and duck call by his former coworkers in Beaumont April 13. Bourne has been an engineer in the system engineering planning department. The call, by the way, was made by James "Cowboy" Fernandez, residential sales representative in Port Arthur.



"That one was oversize . . . Bigger than the ruler."



SECRETARY SWAP — In a move similar to trading professional athletes, Sandy Herrington (left) and Gwen Nickson exchanged places in early May. Mrs. Herrington had been promoted from clerk to stenographer and moved from the power plant engineering and design department to the quality assurance department. Conversely, Miss Nickson moved from the eighth floor QA office to the 18th floor engineering headquarters. Farewell parties were held nearly simultaneously on May 2. Mrs. Herrington was feted with a cake. Miss Nickson received a purse, candy, cards and a cake — shown above partially consumed.

MAXIE-BEAR — Maxie Domingue, departmental clerk in the records department, has found a new boyfriend — Peter Bear. The three-feet high animal is actually the gift of a less stationary admirer, Ms. Domingue reports. Said admirer owned the bear since he was five years old.

Sympathy to W. E. Barksdale, Baton Rouge operating superintendent-electric, on the death of his mother, Eunice, April 22 in Jackson, Miss.



SISTRUNK RETIRES — Kirby Sistrunk, serviceman first class in Port Arthur and known as "Mr. Gulf States" in the Mid-Jefferson County area, was feted and roasted last year on the occasion of his retirement after nearly 38 years of service. Fellow employees contributed "beaucoups money" to defray some of the costs of a new television set Sistrunk desired. Disparaging remarks at the roast were restrained in good-natured fear that Sistrunk would retaliate at future roasts. Sistrunk is pictured with his wife, Tennie, his high school sweetheart. (from Loraine Dunham)

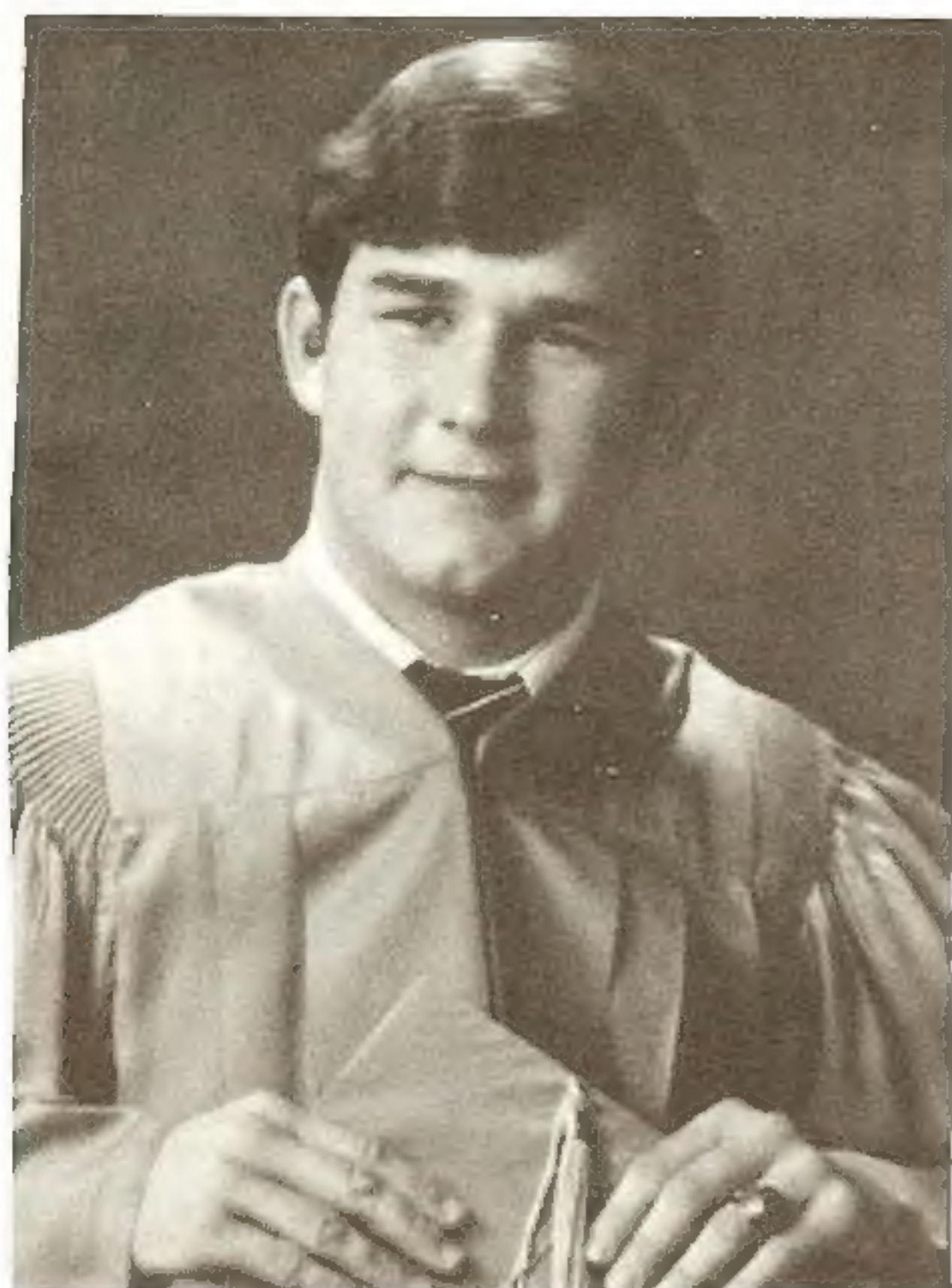


SMILING SANDBERG — Well, at least one guy is smiling. Ken Sandberg, engineer in the quality assurance department, is beaming while two-week old son, Stephen Richard Sandberg, appears to be pondering some weighty matter — possibly his next meal. The small Sandberg was born April 23 and weighed 8 lbs., 7 oz. (from Patricia Bailey)

Bob Allshouse, production construction executive with Stone & Webster, died Jan. 22, 1975 of lung cancer. Allshouse assisted in the design of many Gulf States power plants and had many friends within the Company. (from Bob Sherwood)



MARINE GUNNER — Serving in the Marine Corps at El Toro, Calif., is Corp. Darrell L. Robertson, son of the late George Robertson of Baton Rouge, a longtime Gulf States employee. Robertson, 19, is currently assigned as a gunner.



WEST ORANGE SALUTATORIAN — Eugene W. "Bill" Salonek Jr., son of Eugene W. Salonek Sr., substation operator in Orange, was named salutatorian for West Orange High School with a 95.47 average.

He plans to attend Texas A&M University where he will major in either electrical or nuclear engineering.

Salonek was president of the National Honor Society for two years and its vice president this year; president and formerly treasurer of the Math Club; president of the Junior Engineering Technical Society and representative to the Nuclear Science Symposium at the University of Texas, which was sponsored in this area by Gulf States.

He has been a member of student government for the past five years; is a three-year member of the Debate Club; is a member of the Astronomy Club and writes the "Chief's Pow Wow" column in the *Orange Leader*. Salonek was chosen Mr. F.T.A. (Future Teachers of America) at his school for the past two years.

Salonek also participated in Junior Achievement, managed a large Beaumont *Enterprise* paper route for three years and was named an Eagle Scout at age 13. (from Doris Womack)



1975 SPILLWAY CHAMPS — Charles "Lucky" Loewenthal (left), apprentice in the line department, and David "Bashful Backlashing Bass-Busting Bragging" Bowman, engineering assistant, caught this scale smashing trio of large (?) mouth bass in the Atchafalaya Spillway in March to take home the coveted title of Spillway Champion, recently instituted at the Choctaw Service Center. " 'B.B.B.B.B.' knows where the 'Big Ones' are," Loewenthal, displaying his prize catch, exclaimed as this picture was taken. Bowman remained modest throughout the coronation festivities but revealed he would sell maps detailing the location of his big bass bedroom to any frustrated fisherman. (from Milton Franklin)



HONOR STUDENTS — Two Lamar University students — an employee and an employee's daughter — have been elected to Phi Kappa Phi, a national honor society.

Jean McAfee, executive secretary to senior vice president S. L. Adams; and Karen Denise Bishop, daughter of Brooks Bishop, market research assistant, were initiated into the society May 7.

Miss McAfee is a graduating English major who enjoys the works of Faulkner and Steinbeck. She is also a charter member of the Lamar chapter of Sigma Tau Delta, a national English honor society.

Miss Bishop is a junior home economics major interested in marketing. She is a 1972 magna cum laude graduate of Vidor High School.

To be eligible for membership in Phi Kappa Phi, a senior student must rank in the upper 10 per cent of the class and a junior in the upper five per cent of that class. Nominations are taken from department heads and deans.

Sympathy to Chairman of the Board Floyd Smith on the loss of his grandson, Charles Crain, May 9 from injuries suffered in a motorcycle-truck accident in Nacogdoches. Crain was a freshman at Stephen F. Austin University.

When you have any news or a story you think would be interesting to other Gulf Staters, contact the reporter nearest to you, or write or call the **PLAIN TALKS** editor, Mike Ross, in Beaumont. Notify **PLAIN TALKS** reporters of any event that is happening in your area that the magazine should cover. A complete list of reporters and their locations is given below. If any persons named are no longer with the company or no longer active reporters, please contact Mike Ross. Persons wishing to become **PLAIN TALKS** reporters should also contact the editor. We can never have too many reporters.

Reporters

BATON ROUGE: Margie Force (T&D); T. Boone Chaney (T&D), Melanie Hima (T&D), Jack Gautreaux (T&D), James W. Bello (T&D), GERALYN Williams (Gas), Opal Temple (Acct.), Robert Graves (Storeroom), Susan Wilks, Debbie Lynn (Engr.)

BEAUMONT: Bill Toups (S.C.), Carolyn Mott (T&D), Ann Ogden, Edy Mathews, Dorothy Nowell, Carolyn Thaggard, Gina Collins.

CALVERT: Betty Dowell.

CLEVELAND: Pat Jones, Edd Mitchell.

CONROE: Frances Elliot, Bobbie Burke.

DENHAM SPRINGS: Lenelle Juban.

GONZALES: Billie Fortenberry.

HUNTSVILLE: Karen Morley.

JENNINGS: Earl Mayfield.

LAFAYETTE: Mona Burris.

LAKE CHARLES: Johnnie Stelly (T&D), Janet Follaway.

LA. STATION: Marilyn Nicholson.

LEWIS CREEK: D. W. Rutherford.

MADISONVILLE: Jean Tinsley.

NAVASOTA: Betty Dickschat.

NECHES STATION: Gene Russell.

NELSON STATION: Martha Caldwell.

NEW CANEY: Diana Winkelmann, Paul Mosley.

ORANGE: Doris Womack.

PORT ALLEN: Adele Vavasseur.

PORT ARTHUR: Sue Williams, Lorraine Dunham (S.C.)

SABINE STATION: Darlene Faires, Fred Kressman.

SOMERVILLE: Mary Brock.

SULPHUR: Pearl Burnett.

WILLOW GLEN: Dora Landaiche, James Veatch.

WOODVILLE: Alene Cole.

ZACHARY: Myra Ponthier.



AU REVOIR — J. J. Hopkins, line foreman in Lafayette, retired May 1 and was sent off in fine Cajun style with a beer and barbecue celebration May 2. About 175 Lafayette and Lake Charles employees and retirees attended the affair at the service center. District Superintendent John Lamm presented "Hop," a noted horticulturist, with a garden set to use in maintaining his yard. The plastic mower, hoe and rake will be invaluable tools, no doubt. Mrs. Hopkins received a yellow orchid corsage while "Hop" was presented with a gold watch engraved "From GSU Friends — 1975."



SECOND SCHOLARSHIP — Mary Roby, daughter of Stan Roby, supervisor of technical services, was awarded a \$2,000 college scholarship by First Federal Savings and Loan Association of Beaumont. Miss Roby attends Texas A&M University, majoring in biological sciences with emphasis in either pharmacy or pre-med. She had earlier received a \$1,200 scholarship from A&M. Both awards will be disbursed over four years. Miss Roby was vice president of her senior class at French High School and graduated third among 380. She was active in speech and debate, the National Honor Society and the orchestra, in which she played cello. She attended the Annual Nuclear Science Symposium at the University of Texas at Austin and was featured on the cover of the June/July, 1974, issue of *Plain Talks*.

PHYSICS PHENOM — Patricia Cazes, daughter of Wilson L. Cazes, appliance repair foreman in Baton Rouge, was graduated from Redemptorist High School May 21 with high honors. Miss Cazes maintained at least a 3.5 average out of 4.0 through high school to qualify for the honor. She has received several awards in physics and has served as president of the Thespians Club and as treasurer of the Future Teachers of America. Not wasting any time, Miss Cazes is enrolled in the Louisiana State University summer school, where she will pursue training toward a career as either a physics teacher or nuclear engineer.

RECIPES

Earnest Dawson: The Gregarious Gourmet

If you're ever in Conroe, get yourself invited out to Earnest Dawson's home for dinner.

As these recipes indicate, the meal will be no steak and potatoes affair. Indeed, the consumer service representative-senior is the James Beard of the Western Division.

Imaginative cooking is well bred in the Dawson family. His father and several uncles relish the range. They reportedly throw such elegant bashes at family reunions that Michelin should rate the affairs "Four-Star."

The only problem Dawson has with cooking is writing down the recipe. Those on this page were acquired with great difficulty, since Dawson prepares each dish according to instinct rather than by rote. So he had to figure out exactly how much of this and that to use in order to satisfy our exacting home service department.

When not in the kitchen, Dawson might be found in his woodworking shop. He built the butcher block below his pan rack as well as the "ice cream" scrolled plaque in the left of the picture. Other creations include picture frames, cabinets and furniture.

Moreover, Dawson is noted for his outgoing, friendly and helpful nature — always willing to lend a hand to create or repair anything.



Earnest Dawson
Conroe

CHICKEN A LA GLEN

- 1 stick butter or margarine
- 1 cup onions
- 4 chicken breasts, boned and cut into bite size pieces
- 1 large can paprika
- One 12 oz. jar currant or grape jelly
- 1 cup cooking sherry or red wine

Melt butter in electric skillet set at 350 degrees. Sauté onions in butter until onions are clear. Add chicken that has been coated with paprika. Cook until done. Add jelly and wine and simmer 20 to 30 minutes. Serve over rice and garnish with pimiento strips and sliced olives.

ZUCCHINI SQUASH WITH CHEESE

- 2 eggs
- 1 cup milk
- 1½ cups flour
- 1 tsp. baking powder
- 1 tsp. salt
- ¼ to ½ cup bread crumbs
- 1 large zucchini squash, sliced horizontally
- Cooking oil
- ½ cup grated Cheddar cheese

Blend eggs, milk, flour, baking powder, salt and bread crumbs in blender to prepare batter. Dip zucchini slices in batter and coat well. Fry in ½ inch of cooking oil. Drain on paper towel and place on serving dish. Do not stack. Top each zucchini slice with cheese.

MUSHROOMS ELEGANTE

- 8 to 10 mushroom caps
- 8 to 10 oysters
- ½ cup grated American or Parmesan cheese
- ¼ cup sauterne or sherry wine

Arrange mushroom caps in a shallow baking pan. Place one oyster in each cap, sprinkle with grated cheese and pour wine over each oyster. There should be about 1/8 inch of wine in bottom of pan. Bake at 350 degrees until cheese is melted and mushrooms are partially cooked. Serve as a side dish with Oyster Loaf Supreme or as appetizers.

TOSSED GREEN SALAD

- Equal parts romaine, endive and Boston lettuce
- 4 to 5 large fresh mushrooms, thinly sliced
- 1/3 cup croutons
- 1/8 cup Parmesan cheese

Mix above ingredients and serve with your favorite salad dressing.

FLAMED CHERRIES

- Two 1 lb. cans dark sweet cherries
- 1 Tbsp. cornstarch dissolved in ¼ cup water
- 1/2 cup brandy
- 3 Tbsps. cinnamon
- Vanilla ice cream

Warm cherries in blazer pan. Add cornstarch until mixture has thickened. Warm brandy in saucepan, pour over cherries and ignite. While brandy is flaming, sprinkle cinnamon into flame. Serve over vanilla ice cream.

OYSTER LOAF SUPREME

- One 10 oz. pkg. frozen spinach
- ½ lb. large fresh mushrooms
- ½ cup chopped green onions
- 2 Tbsps. butter or margarine
- ¼ cup sauterne or sherry wine
- 1 cup oysters
- 1 cup bread crumbs
- Pie crust
- ½ tsp. salt
- ½ tsp. pepper

Cook spinach according to directions on package; drain well in colander, making sure to press out all excess moisture. Break off mushroom stems and cut in thin slices. Save mushroom caps for Mushrooms Elegante. Sauté sliced mushroom stems and green onions in butter. Add wine and remove from heat. Coat oysters in bread crumbs. Roll pie crust to approximately 8 by 12 inches. On crust arrange a layer of drained spinach, a layer of mushrooms and a layer of oysters. Fold edges of pie crust over the filling; then turn pie crust bottom side up. It should resemble a loaf of French bread. Garnish or decorate top of loaf with strips of pie crust and mushrooms. Bake at 350 degrees 15 to 20 minutes, or until crust is brown. For each serving, slice loaf approximately 3 inches thick and top with Sour Cream Dressing.

Sour Cream Dressing

- 1 cup dairy sour cream
- ½ cup grated American or Parmesan cheese
- ¼ cup sauterne or sherry wine

Combine ingredients.

Consumer Scene



Do It Yourself — And Save

A great many Americans, discouraged at the prospects of buying a new home this year, plan to renovate their present homes instead.

Actually, such renovation makes good sense. It will make the home more enjoyable to the family and may help increase its resale value later when it comes time to move to a newer or larger home.

The kitchen is most often the focal point for renovation, says Jane Butel Silver, manager of General Electric's Consumers Institute.

"If you're planning to re-do the kitchen, remember that you may be able to save a substantial amount of money if you do it yourself," says Mrs. Silver. The savings may make the difference between doing the job all at one time or spreading it out. Or you may save enough to permit the addition of another appliance, such as a trash compactor.

Pre-glued wallpaper, adhesive-backed floor tile, pre-built cupboards and base cabinets—all are designed to help the home handyman. Even major appliance manufacturers are making their products easier for the home handyman to self-install.

For instance, General Electric's Potscrubber II™ dishwashers come with an installation module to simplify electrical and plumbing connections. The installation module is first connected to the house elec-

trical and plumbing connections, then attached to the kitchen floor before the dishwasher is pushed into position under the counter. The module allows the handyman clear access for easy snap-on connections of the dishwasher's plumbing and wiring.

Also available from GE is a dishwasher replacement kit which can be used to replace most dishwashers with a new General Electric built-in model.

Another job made easier for the home handyman is replacing a food waste disposer. With General Electric's simplified mounting system, you simply position a mounting head in the mouth of the sink, tighten three bolts, then slip the disposer into the mounting head. Twist the unit, and it snaps into place and locks. All that remains is connecting the plumbing and electricity. General Electric has a booklet that gives simple do-it-yourself instructions for installing a disposer.

Or if you wish to save money on a refrigerator with automatic icemaker, says Mrs. Silver, you can buy them separately and install the icemaker yourself. Installation directions come with every GE automatic icemaker kit.

If there is one appliance which says "modern" in almost any kitchen, it's the trash compactor. And it's a snap to install. Simply slide it into place and plug into any grounded, three-prong 110-volt outlet.